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The First New Jersey Dinner

THE great event of the New Jersey Historical Society 1956-57 season was the First New Jersey Dinner, held at Princeton on May 22. The dinner was planned with two purposes in mind, the first, to create interest in the Society and the second, to raise money to defray current operating expenses. The Executive Committee composed of ten members of the Board of Trustees decided to hold the dinner and Richard V. Lindabury and Frederick H. Groel were appointed co-chairmen of the Special Projects or Dinner Committee. Other members of the Committee included Harry O. H. Frelinghuysen, Donald B. Kipp, and Mrs. John Castree Williams. Carroll M. Shanks, president of the Prudential Insurance Company of America, accepted the post of chairman and Governor Robert B. Meyner that of honorary chairman. The Committee's hard work and generous donation of time and thought are the principal reasons for the great success of the evening.

Ninety-four men and women served as patrons and patronesses of the dinner. Governor and Mrs. Meyner kindly consented to have the guests of the dinner attend a reception at Morven beforehand. This party at Morven sounded the informal note which continued the entire evening. The warm and gracious hospitality of the hostess at Morven was so much appreciated by her guests who were so handsome in their pretty dinner gowns and "black ties." The dinner itself was held at the Princeton Inn at eight P.M. At the speakers' table were the president of the New Jersey Historical Society, Dr. Richard P. McCormick

and Mrs. McCormick, and the chairman, Carroll M. Shanks and Mrs. Shanks; others included the honorary chairman, Governor Robert B. Meyner and Mrs. Meyner, the Rt. Reverend Benjamin M. Washburn, Bishop of the Diocese of Newark and first vice-president of the New Jersey Historical Society, Dr. Harold M. Dodds, president of Princeton University, Ogden R. Reid, president and editor of the *New York Herald-Tribune,* and Mrs. Reid. Bishop Washburn pronounced the invocation and later in the course of the dinner Mr. Shanks called on Governor Meyner to propose a toast. A toast was drunk to the President of the United States. Dr. McCormick then proposed a toast to the Governor of New Jersey and Mrs. Meyner. After the dessert, Mr. Shanks spoke a few words of greeting:

Ladies and gentlemen, or—to use a more appropriate salutation this evening—fellow Jerseymen: I am delighted to have the privilege of welcoming you formally to our First New Jersey Dinner.

Many, many years ago—in 1676 to be precise—there was published in England an advertising tract designed to interest prospective emigrants in the newly founded colony of New Jersey. With commendable directness, and as if to quiet any insidious rumors to the contrary, the pamphlet opened with the words: "That there is such a Province as New-Jersey, is certain."

Ever since, it would seem, we Jerseymen have had to insist that we do, indeed, exist. Dwarfed by our great sister states, subject to peculiar internal sectionalism, and traditionally characterized by an exceedingly mobile population, we are not—like Hoosiers, Virginians, or "Down Easters"—readily reduced to type. Nor are we especially clannish or self-assertive. In those qualities our modesty requires that we yield to Brooklynites or Texans.

The main purpose of this First New Jersey Dinner, then, is to assert our identity as Jerseymen. We take this occasion, under the imaginative sponsorship of the New Jersey Historical Society, to demonstrate our common pride in, and affection for, our great and historic state. In doing so we are manifesting our support of our Historical Society, which has been serving New Jersey since 1845.

New Jersey has many dimensions. We know it today as an exceedingly populous, bustling, and prosperous state. We admire it for its infinite variety, for the beauties of its shore, its mountain lakes, its luxuriant farmlands, its gracious suburbs. But this evening our interest centers on another dimension—the extraordinarily rich historical past.

From that past we derive our priceless heritage. And can anyone doubt that on our continued fidelity to that heritage depends the future sound-

ness of our state and our nation? Our greatness as a people is dependent on the preservation of our traditional way of life.

It is to such institutions as the New Jersey Historical Society that we owe much of that understanding of our past upon which we all rely for guidance and inspiration. As Jerseymen, therefore, we value the Historical Society for the indispensable contribution it makes to our state. We meet tonight as its members and its guests to honor our state, to pay deserved tribute to one of its outstanding citizens, and to remind ourselves of our common allegiance.

Mr. Shanks then called upon Governor Meyner, who responded as follows:

I am delighted to follow the excellent example set by Mr. Shanks in greeting you this evening as *fellow Jerseymen*. It is a good name, and one in which we can take full pride.

I have no long speech to make to you tonight. I am here principally to extend congratulations on behalf of the state of New Jersey to the New Jersey Historical Society for its long and valued contributions to historical endeavors in our state. I am glad, too, that I may take this opportunity—on behalf of the state—to join in this deserved tribute to such an outstanding citizen as Dr. Dodds. As one who has helped make the history of our state by his contributions in many fields, he merits the high honor that you pay him.

Joining together this evening as Jerseymen, we share a common pride in our historic traditions. The meaning of those traditions was expressed in much more eloquent form than I could hope to equal more than a century ago. The occasion, appropriately enough, was the first annual meeting of the New Jersey Historical Society in January, 1846. The speaker was the Right Reverend George Washington Doane. His topic was "The Goodly Heritage of Jerseymen." His message is worth recalling.

"I have come here," said the good Bishop, "as a Jerseyman, to speak to Jerseymen, about New Jersey." He complained feelingly about the general lack of state pride in his time. "There has been quite too little, in us, of the true notion of a commonwealth," he lamented. "We lack community of feeling. We are of Trenton, of Newark, or of Burlington. We are of *East* Jersey, or of *West* Jersey. We are not ALL JERSEYMEN."

In explaining this deplorable lack of state feeling, Bishop Doane observed that we had, as a state, been neglectful of our history. "We have well nigh forgotten," he said, "that we *have* a history. We have almost lost the very sense of our identity."

And then he pointed to the remedy, when he said: "For these things I have long desired the establishment of a Historical Society . . ."

The high hopes that the patriotic Bishop had for our Historical Society have in good measure been realized. It is to the Society, more than to any

other agency, that we owe our knowledge of our common historical experience.

Whether we come from old East Jersey or West Jersey, from North Jersey or South Jersey, we can all take pride in the deeds of the intrepid yeomen who planted liberal institutions of self government here in the 1660's. We recall with reverence the remarkable humanity of William Penn and his associates, who founded here the first Quaker colony in America. We share with the nation the glory of Washington's victories at Trenton, Princeton, and Monmouth. We hail the inventive genius that gave to the world the steamboat, the submarine, and the electric light. And we claim as our own such artistic greats as Philip Freneau, Stephen Crane, and Asher B. Durand.

This, then, is the goodly heritage of Jerseymen. This is the heritage that our Historical Society preserves and makes known to us through its museum and its library, its volumes of printed source materials and its excellent quarterly magazine.

I think it is significant that the Historical Society has chosen this year to inaugurate a New Jersey Dinner. All around us we see unmistakable signs of an extraordinary growth of interest in local evidences of our nation's heritage. Virginia is holding its Jamestown Festival; Massachusetts will soon greet the Mayflower II. Tomorrow in Delaware a museum devoted to the historic Brandywine mills will be opened. Here in New Jersey we have begun at Batsto, on the Wharton Tract, a restoration enterprise that will recreate for our citizens a fascinating chapter in our economic history.

To put it simply: we are at last discovering our identity. We are, at the same time, developing that feeling of commonwealth that Bishop Doane called for. We are becoming ALL JERSEYMEN.

I know that with continued evidences of your support, such as you are manifesting here this evening, our Historical Society will grow in resources and usefulness.

May the "goodly heritage of Jerseymen" that the Society seeks to record and perpetuate be our common bond, not only for this auspicious occasion, but for all the years to come.

Dr. Dodds was then presented with the New Jersey Historical Society Award for a distinguished contribution to the history of New Jersey, a footed tray of sterling silver engraved with the seal of the Society and the name of the recipient. The citation which accompanied the award, hand-lettered in a special folder, was read by Dr. McCormick.

The stature of a man is measured both by his contemporaries and by those who subsequently record his place in history. Dr. Harold Willis

Dodds, in offering you this evening the tribute of our respect and esteem, we are but anticipating the verdict of history.

Your career exemplifies in the finest manner that tradition of contructive citizenship to which Princeton and her sons have remained dedicated since the days of John Witherspoon.

As a scholar-in-action, you have made enduring contributions to the betterment of government in New Jersey, in this nation, and in many foreign lands.

As the gifted president of Princeton University for twenty-four years, you have enhanced the justifiable pride that New Jersey feeels in that world renowned institution.

As the valued counselor of statesmen and educators, and as the inspiring guide of scholars and students, you have shared the wisdom of your mind and the strength of your spirit with unstinting liberality.

Because you have lived and labored among us, New Jersey has been vastly enriched.

In recognition of your many—and, indeed, historic—contributions to New Jersey, I have the honor to present to you the New Jersey Historical Society Award.

Dr. Dodds accepted the award with great appreciation in a brief talk in which he entered some amusing remarks. The speaker of the evening, Mr. Reid, recalled some of the occasions on which the Society has been reported by the *New York Herald-Tribune* and its predecessors in the past and then spoke on the role of the United States in a world of increasingly complex foreign relations.

Comments afterwards were, with no exception, most favorable. It was a party to enjoy and certainly the Committee deserves great credit for a social event so enjoyable. The dinner not only called attention to the Society in a pleasant fashion but also was tremendously successful financially.

Origins of the Town of Newark

DANIEL JACOBSON

New World opportunities did not tempt the conservative Englishman of the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries. An agricultural people, with no tradition of the open sea, the English took only a small part in the oceanic voyages of the time.[1] English vessels are known to have frequented the Newfoundland fishing banks as early as 1480 and John Cabot discovered a "new world" in the far north in 1497, but these ventures provided little incentive for English yeoman farmers and tenders of sheep to brave the wide Atlantic. Six decades after the voyage of Cabot, not a single geographical publication of importance appeared in England to record an interest in the new American lands.[2]

It was left for the travails of the following century—the unemployment resulting from the inroads of the enclosure movement and the decline in the cloth industry, the increasing burdens of taxation, and especially the earth-shaking impact of the Protestant Reformation aided and abetted by Archbishop Laud's machinations against non-conformers—to lead Englishmen to abandon their native land. When the Merchant Adverturers added rich lands and the promise of ultimate plenty to the expectations of creating a Wilderness Zion in the New World, the triumph of emigration was assured.

It is estimated that twenty-two thousand persons were landed on the New England coast between 1620—the date of the planting at Plymouth—and 1640 when the Great Puritan Migration all but ceased.[3] Before 1660, five of the present New England

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[1]George B. Parks, *Richard Hakluyt and the English Voyages* (Amer. Geog. Soc., Spec. Publ. No. 10, N.Y., 1928), pp. 3-4.

[2]*Ibid.*, p. 5. The time period involved was actually fifty-six years. Richard Eden broke the silence on the New World with his *Treatise on the New India,* 1553.

[3]Edward Eggleston, *Beginners of a Nation* (N.Y., 1896), p. 344.

states had towns planted within their limits and Massachusetts and Connecticut had sent bands of pioneers up and down the coast as well as inland to begin new settlements in the wilderness.[4]

Ventures into the interior from Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay were begun at an early date. William Holmes, a Plymouth man, sailed up the Connecticut River (October, 1633), past the Dutch guns at present-day Hartford, and planted a trading post at Windsor.[5] Internal religious squabbles at Massachusetts Bay, the growing need for additional farm and pasture land, and the lure of the rich valley of the Connecticut were chiefly responsible for congregations leaving Dorchester, Watertown, and Newtown (Cambridge) for the interior. By spring, 1637, the Connecticut River terraces could boast a population of eight hundred; Wethersfield, Windsor and Hartford—the nuclei of the Connecticut colony—were going concerns.

Later in the same year blows struck at the Pequots from the river Thames to the borders of New Netherlands cleared the southern shores of Connecticut—the inlets, coves and rich meadow lands bordering the Sound—for immediate settlement. John Davenport and Theophilus Eaton led London merchants and farmers from Hertfordshire, Yorkshire, and Kent to the lands west of the Connecticut. Between 1638 and 1640 New Haven, Milford, Guilford, and Stamford were founded. These became the nuclei of the New Haven Republic.

Because the distinctions between these sister colonies played so vital a role in the ultimate settlement of Newark, the character of each must be clearly understood. The Connecticut colony was in reality "a small, slow moving agricultural settlement . . . largely isolated from the main currents of English and colonial life, and free to enforce, without obstruction and without restraint, the ideas that were working within the minds of her leaders . . ."[7] Connecticut became under the leadership of Thomas Hooker a liberal democratic island in an otherwise

[4]Lois K. Mathews, *The Expansion of New England* (N.Y., 1909), p. 33.

[5]Alexander Johnston, *Connecticut* (N.Y., 1895), p. 15. See also Benjamin Trumbull, *History of Connecticut,* Vol. 1 (New London, 1898), and G. H. Hollister, *History of Connecticut* (New Haven, 1855).

[7]Charles M. Andrews, *Our Earliest Colonial Settlements* (N.Y., 1933), p. 118.

tightly-knit Puritan world. The Fundamental Orders of 1639 have been justly celebrated as the germ of the American idea of self-government.

The germs of liberality, however, never reached New Haven.

> . . . in each town of the colony little groups of saints entered into covenent with God and with one another to walk in all the ways of truth. Each church thus gathered became a unit independent of outside control. To their fellowship the elect admitted others who had proved their worthiness, and from it they excluded those who fell from grace. All attempts to liberalize the system met with failure.[8]

A religious oligarchy pledged to "the Congregational Way" had risen on the north shore of the Sound; its reins were tight and binding.

But New Haven was a paradox. It walked with God on the one hand and reached out for more worldly pursuits—manufacturing and commerce—with the other. An iron works was early established in the town of New Haven itself;[9] there was talk of making steel at Southold[10] on Long Island and of building ships for intercolonial as well as international trade. Vessels from the colony participated in the New Amsterdam trade, were seen on the Delaware, in Virginia and the West Indies, and were known in England and the Mediterranean. Feelers were put out for colonies on Long Island and for settlements in the Dutch lands on the Delaware. And because the government in England was favorably disposed toward it, the New Haven colony prospered.

With the restoration of the Stuarts in 1660, however, a paralyzing fear swept New Haven. The new English monarch, flushed with victory, would most assuredly attempt to crush the life from the tightly-knit Puritan colony. Under the spell of this fear, negotiations were opened in February, 1661, with Governor Stuyvesant of New Netherlands for a possible refuge site under the liberal Dutch jurisdiction. New Haven would flee to New

[8]Isabel M. Calder, *The New Haven Colony* (New Haven, 1934), p. 261.

[9]Massachusetts Historical Society *Collections,* 4th Series, VII, 402-05; quoted in Calder, *op. cit.,* p. 159.

[10]*New Haven Colonial Records,* 1653-1665, pp. 153, 175; *Southold Records,* I, 212; quoted in Calder, *op. cit.,* p. 160.

Netherlands. But nothing came of the negotiations and New Haven waited for the blows to fall.

In 1662 Charles II awarded Connecticut all the lands between Narragansett Bay and the far distant Western Sea. New Haven fell under Connecticut's jurisdiction. Dr. Stearns, Newark's church historian, comments:[11]

> To a large portion of the people of New Haven colony, this union was exceedingly offensive. Besides being brought about in a very arbitrary manner, without due consultation with them, and, in the first instance, against their consent, it involved the abandonment of some of their favorite principles. They had commenced their settlement in the wilderness, full of the spirit of that animating vision, which continually floated before the mind of the Puritan emigrant, to found a church upon pure principles, and a state which, though separate in its jurisdiction, should act in perfect harmony with the church, and be governed in all its procedures by the rules of God's Holy Word. They seem to have supposed, that by bringing up their children in the fear of God, and excluding from the exercise of power among them those who were not governed by the same principles, they might continue to be of one heart from generation to generation . . .

Unwilling to subject themselves to the liberal views of Connecticut, and too weak internally to struggle against blows and decrees emanating from England as well as the sister colony, several of the New Haven congregations appealed once more to New Netherlands for aid. Milford's Robert Treat reopened negotiations with Stuyvesant, June 29, 1663.

Meanwhile, the English king was preparing the conquest of New Netherlands. As a preliminary step, he awarded the lands between the Delaware and Connecticut rivers to his brother James, Duke of York. He then dispatched a large fleet to New England and New Amsterdam which resulted in the capitulation of Stuyvesant and the destruction of Dutch power in North America.[12] On June 23, 1664, Lord John Berkeley and Sir George Carteret secured from James under deeds of lease and release the lands that now constitute the state of New Jersey.[13]

[11]Jonathan F. Stearns, *Historical Discourse Relating to the First Presbyterian Church in Newark* (Newark, 1853), pp. 3-4.

[12]Dutch hegemony in New York was regained for a brief period in 1673, but it was short-lived. See J. A. Doyle, *The English in America*, Vol. 4 (N.Y., 1907), pp. 375-78.

[13]*Elizabethtown Bill in Chancery*, pp. 6-7.

Four months earlier the "concessions and agreement of the Lords Proprietors of the province of Nova-Cesarea, or New Jersey to and with all the Adventurers and all such as shall settle or plant there,"[14] had been issued. It was hoped that the liberal terms of the "Concessions" would induce New Englanders and others to plant in New Jersey.

Actually English title to New Jersey clearly existed at an earlier date. Grants to both the London and Plymouth companies in 1606 included most of the present state; other grants covering the state were granted to the new Virginia Company in 1609 and to Lenox and Gorges in 1620; the most celebrated grant went to Sir Edmund Plowden who received a tract of land from Charles I which covered the present states of New Jersey, Delaware, parts of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New York.[15] Plowden was given the title Earl Palatine and the land itself was called New Albion. Beauchamp Plantagenet agreed to go to the New World under the Plowden grant to "secure a pure air, a fresh navigable river and a rich country"[16] for his kinsmen and neighbors. His sights were fixed on the Delaware River near Salem "just halfway between Virginia, too hot and aguish with the blasted rains on one side, and the cold New England on the other."[17]

Plantagenet's account of New Albion appeared in print in 1637. It contained a flattering description of the country and was designed to encourage would-be planters to move to the New World. The Earl himself is reported to have been in New Albion before 1641 and to have remained seven years. But for the most part his knights refused to go to America. Salem and Pennsauken (founded earlier) had existed as English settlements prior to the grant to Berkeley and Carteret. They were swallowed up by the Dutch and Swedes who appeared on the Delaware in great numbers.

The Dutch, who claimed New World lands between Delaware

[14]*Ibid.*, p. 12.

[15]An excellent account of the Plowden grant and circumstances pertaining to it can be found in Isaac Mickle, *Reminiscences of Old Gloucester* (Phila., 1845). A statement of the grant itself can be found in *Hazard's Collection of State Papers*, I, 160.

[16]Mickle, *op. cit.*, p. 25.

[17]*Ibid.*

Bay and Cape Cod as a result of early explorations, had realized at once the significance of Manhattan Island as a base for trade with the interior. They had also realized the importance of the island's western flank. Two years prior to the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, Dutch traders had established a small village on the western side of the Hudson River just opposite Manhattan. Bergen was the forerunner of subsequent settlements laid out by the Dutch along the Palisades Ridge.[18] And while successful attempts were made to plant factory stations and permanent settlements on the Raritan and Delaware rivers, no attempt was made by the Dutch to penetrate the lands immediately west of the Palisades. Even the aborigines who carried beaver pelts to the Dutch communities on the ridge scrupulously avoided making a direct passage northwest to southeast from the Watchungs to Bergen, Communipaw or Weehawken.[19]

The principal deterrent to travel was the existence of the great tide marsh, an elongated stretch of water-soaked meadow four miles wide and eighteen miles long extending north from the valley of the lower Passaic River to the Indian settlement near Hackensack.[20] The dense cover of coarse sedges and salt grass conspired with the soft blue muds to make travel on foot all but impossible; travel by canoe was equally slow and difficult. Extensive tracts of cedar swamp also barred access. At high tide the entire area was often submerged; it was always saturated. The marsh was also a breeding ground for mosquitos and other insects. To the aborigines, and particularly the Europeans of the seventeenth century, the region west of the Palisades was for the most part an impenetrable morass to be strictly avoided.

Indian tales of the lands west of the salt marsh circulated freely among the Dutch settlers. The Hackensack sachems spoke of the high mountains in the west and the soft grassland between the mountains and the marsh, of the many brooks which

[18]William A. Whitehead, *East Jersey under the Proprietors* (Newark, 1875), p. 17.
[19]Reginald P. Bolton, *Indian Paths of the Great Metropolis* (N.Y., 1922), pp. 201-02.
[20]New Jersey State Geologist, *Annual Report,* 1896, p. 289. See also J. W. Harshberger and V. G. Burns, "The Vegetation of the Hackensack Marsh: a Typical American Fen," *Trans. Wagner Free Inst. Science,* Vol. 9, Part 1 (Phila., 1919), and C. J. Heusser, "History of an Estuarine Bog at Secaucus, New Jersey," *Bull. of the Torrey Bot. Club,* Vol. 76, No. 6 (Nov. 1949).

tumbled from the Watchungs to the meadow, then to the limpid Passaic. All were depicted upon Indian advice in exaggerated form on the early Dutch maps.[21] All were probably known in New England. But it was left for the English settlers of Elizabethtown to spy out the land and to recommend it highly as a possible site for settlement.[22] Governor Carteret recommended it to Robert Treat and the men of New Haven.

Treat, in company of John Gregory, voyaged up the Passaic in the fall of 1655. Salt marsh marked both sides of the lower valley as far as the eye could see; tall salt grass fringed the right bank well past the river's second great meander. At a point beyond the great bend Treat and his partner may well have inspected the low hills fringing the marsh, have noted the rich red of the soils, the tumbling brooks, the luxuriant grass. They noted that the Indians were few in number,[23] that the lands in the immediate distant north and west were settled by no white man; that their would-be neighbors at Elizabethtown were Englishmen, in large part Puritan; that trade could be maintained if necessary by virtue of the Passaic-Newark Bay-Kill van Kull waterway; and most significant of all, isolation from the Dutch settlements and the Dutch culture on the Palisades was assured, so they thought, by the great expanse of the Hackensack Meadow. Isolation would permit here the establishment of a community dedicated to "the Congregational Way." Other possible settlement sites were quickly abandoned.

In the spring of 1666 the first boatloads of New Haven men arrived on the Passaic. As Robert Treat recalls:[24]

> No sooner was the company present got on the place and landed some of their goods than I with some others was by some of the Hackensack Indians warned off the Ground and [they] seemed troubled and angry that we landed any of our goods there tho' first we told them we had the Governor's order; but they replied that the land was theirs, and it

[21]See plates 7, 7A, and 9 and accompanying descriptions in I. N. Phelps Stokes, *Iconography of Manhattan Island,* Vol. I (N.Y., 1915), pp. 143-51, 154-55.

[22]Joseph Atkinson, *History of Newark, New Jersey* (Newark, 1878), p. 12.

[23]It is estimated that less than two thousand members of the Lenni Lenape occupied the state of New Jersey. The Newark site, near the contact between the Raritan and Hackensack branches of the Lenni Lenape, was unoccupied, although the land itself was reputed to be owned by Perro of the Hackensack.

[24]See Frank J. Urquhart, *A History of the City of Newark, New Jersey* (N.Y., 1913), I, 54.

was unpurchased; and therefore we put our goods on board the vessels and acquainted the governor with the matter.

The purchase was finally effected in a bill of sale signed on July 11, 1667. The area was

founded and limited with the bay eastward, and the great river Pesayak northward; the great creek or river in the meadow running to the head of the cove and from thence bearing a west line for the south bounds, which said great creek is commonly called Weequahick; on the west line backwards in the country to the foot of the great mountain, called Watchung, being as is judged about seven or eight miles from Pasayak Towne. The said mountain as we are informed, hath one branch of the Elizabeth River running near the above said foot of the mountain. The bounds northerly up Pasayak river reach to the third river above the town. The river is called Yauntakah, and from thence upon a northwest line to the aforesaid mountain.[25]

Present-day portions of South Orange, Short Hills, Maplewood, West Orange, Orange, and Montclair, and all of East Orange, Bloomfield, Glen Ridge, Nutley and Belleville were included in the original purchase. Possible difficulties were avoided with Elizabethtown by an amicable settlement of the southern boundary question.[26] The new settlers accepted a line running from Divident Hill northwest to the break in the Watchungs, thus giving to Elizabethtown a large triangular tract of territory. In exchange Elizabethtown promised to aid the new settlers in securing a tract of salt meadow between the Passaic and Hackensack rivers to include the ridge later called Barbadoes Neck. It was discovered shortly thereafter that the tract had already been awarded to Kingsland and Sanford. Blocked thus in the east and south from further expansion the settlers agreed in town meeting to seek lands in the west. The so-called "Second Purchase" carried the limits of the town to the top of the First Watchungs. Purchases by others above Third River prevented expansion to the north.

At the very first town meeting, October 30, 1666, two "fundamental agreements" were provided for:

1st. That none shall be admitted freemen or free Burgesses within our Town upon Passaick River, in the Province of New Jersey but such

[25] *East Jersey Records*, B, 68. See also the *Elizabethtown Bill in Chancery*, p. 60.
[26] *Elizabethtown Bill in Chancery*, p. 61.

planters as are members of some or other of the Congregational Churches; nor shall any but such be chosen to Magistracy, or to carry on any part of Civil Judicature, or as deputies or assistants to have power to vote in Establishing Laws, and making or repealing them, or to any Chief Military Trust or Office. Nor shall any But such Church Members have any Vote in any such elections. Tho' all others admitted to Be planters have Right to their proper Inheritances, and do and shall enjoy all other Civil Liberties and Privileges, According to Laws, Orders, Grants, which are or hereafter shall Be made for this Town.

2nd. We shall with Care and Diligence provide for the maintenance of the purity of Religion professed in the Congregational Churches.[27]

The settlers assumed an attitude of independence from the first. Town law and town court were supreme. Little interference was brooked from the colonial government. Four years after the initial settlement, Newarkers were defying the colonial government over the question of quitrents. The seeds that were to sprout in the Revolution were planted with the town's beginnings.

Soon after erecting temporary dwellings, the settlers began to implement the town plan. The compact agricultural villages of Guilford, Milford, New Haven, and Branford, the original homes of the settlers, were to serve as models for the new settlement insofar as the local environment would allow.[28] Careful consideration was paid the position of the meadows, the ponds and brooks, the old Indian paths, the small hillocks which fringed the marsh just beyond the river and the river itself. A northwest-southeast orientation line was drawn between the encroaching marsh land in the far south to the point in the north where the Passaic assumes a northeasterly trend. Less than two thousand feet from the latter point a large area triangular in shape was set aside as a training ground; immediately to the northwest a smaller triangle was planned for a market place; less than a mile south of the training ground along the same

[27] *Newark Town Records* (Newark, 1864), p. 2.

[28] A map of the home lots at New Haven can be found in Edward E. Atwater, *History of the Colony of New Haven* (Meriden, Conn., 1902), frontispiece; a map of a portion of the home lots at Guilford may be found in Alvan Talcott, *Chittenden Family* (1882), p. 9; Milford's home lots are also depicted in Atwater, *op. cit.*, p. 155, and in *History of Milford Connecticut* (1939), compiled by Federal Writers Project of W.P.A., between pp. 11-12. See also Glenn T. Trewartha, "Types of Rural Settlement in Colonial America," *Geog. Rev.*, Vol. 36 (1946), and Edna Scofield, "The Origin of Settlement Patterns in Rural New England," *Geog. Rev.*, Vol. 28 (1938).

orientation line a large park was planned.[29] Park and training ground were linked by a broad road eight rods wide. A watering place for cattle and humans was also set aside for public use. The broad road veered sharply to the west on both ends; in the north to avoid the river, on the south to take advantage of an old Indian trail which ultimately linked up with the famous Minisink Path. Roads were also planned to parallel the main artery on either side although these were of smaller dimensions. A fourth road—six rods wide—was to cut the preceding three at right angles. It was along these four roads that the earliest settlers of Newark established their home lots. Broad Street today is still the city's main artery and that point where Market Street cuts Broad at right angles is still the center, the heart of the city.

Between 1666 and 1673 much of the land of the new site was disposed of by lottery.[30] Home-lot grants of six acres each went to the original settlers who agreed to "come with the greatest Part of their family to Build upon the Same and possess it for the space of Two Years at Least."[31] Robert Treat, because of his great services to the town, was awarded eight acres. In February, 1667, and again in 1669 and 1670 divisions were made of the meadow lands east of the home lots. In 1673 the upland west and north of the town was partitioned. The "purchase money" secured in these transactions made up the town's first treasury, the money serving to defray costs of further purchases of Indian lands and to defray the transportation costs and salary of Newark's first pastor, Abraham Pierson,[32] newly arrived from Connecticut.

The new settlement was initially called "Our Town" or "Our Town on Passayuk River," then Milford, after the New Haven town, and finally Newark in honor of Pastor Pierson, who had preached earlier in the English city of the same name.[33]

[29]Present-day Newarkers will recognize the training ground as Military Park, the market place as Washington Park and the park in the south as Lincoln Park—all significant features in Newark's landscape.

[30]Urquhart, *op. cit.*, p. 109.

[31]*Town Records*, p. 6.

[32]Reverend Mr. Pierson had been the spiritual leader at Branford. He assumed a like position in Newark. Cotton Matcher said of him, "Wherever he came he shone."

[33]Stearns, *op. cit.*, p. 20. Stearns states (p. 21) that "Its etymology is new-work, not new ark, as some have supposed; the former being a simple English translation of the

Homes of oak and cedar were soon going up along the broad street. Fences were being constructed to bar cattle from the marsh. Work was begun in common in 1668 on the first meeting house. In the following year a cattle pound was emerging near the Frog Pond. In 1669 John Rockwell acquired his six acres on the Passaic itself, "upon Consideration that he doth this very Spring Season, come and Settle here in our Town and maintain this or such like sufficient Boat for the use of the Town or particular Persons in the Town . . ."[34] Thus was born the commerce—an attribute borrowed from New Haven—for which the later-day city would be justly famous. Home lots were disposed of, meadow land burned, paths cut, land markers laid out. And soon the town treasury was paying "15s. for every grown Wolf that they kill."[35]

As Dr. Stearns states:[36]

> It would be difficult to find a more perfectly well regulated community anywhere, than that which they established on the banks of the Passaic. All their affairs were conducted on the most perfect system. The public burdens were carefully distributed among the settlers in proportion to their estates; and where services were to be performed in common, every man under their several leaders had his place fixed and assigned him, that there might be no neglect, delay, or interference. Whether the work were to clear the highways of the obtruding vegetation, make or repair the fences, ditch the meadows, burn the woods, use the common lands for the pasturing of cattle, pay the public charges, or carry Mr. Pierson's wood to his door—all was regulated with the precision of a military manoevre, and each man knew his part and his time. Only one service seems to have been performed with great reluctance, and that was the attendance upon town meetings; and here in spite of fines over and over imposed on the delinquents the voters seem to have continued long to disregard their high privileges and franchises . . .

The firm regulations may have been in large part responsible for Newark's slow growth. Foreigners were unwanted and New Englanders who would not adhere to the "fundamental agree-

Latin words *Novum Opus*, by which the founder of Newark Castle chose to distinguish his then new enterprise." See the article by Miriam V. Studley, "Town-on-the-Passaick," *Newark Evening News*, May 15, 1949, which reviews the controversial elements concerning the derivation of the city's name.

[34]*Town Records*, p. 17.

[35]*Ibid.*, p. 6.

[36]Stearns, *op. cit.*, p. 39.

ments" were not tolerated. In addition, the town had a very poor reputation abroad. It was known to be "subject to fevers and agues,"[37] and was considered a "place which lay considerably out of public view."[38] The inspiration for these statements may well have been the proximity of the Hackensack Meadow and the encroaching marshland within the town itself.[39] On the other hand, information of this sort may well have been circulated by design.

The town of Newark was born in the England of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries when dissenters began to raise their voices for the first time against the state church. It was born of the declining English economy, of heavy taxation, and the desire of adventurers to plant plantations and make profits on lands overseas; it was born of the emigration to Connecticut of the men of Massachusetts Bay Colony and the dissensions which rent Connecticut after Charles had obliterated New Haven as a separate colony; it was born of the English conquest of New Netherlands, the grant of Jersey lands to James, Duke of York and the liberal concessions of Berkeley and Carteret; it was born of peaceful purchase of Indian lands, of the foresight of Governor Carteret and the great vision of Robert Treat and the founding fathers. It was Treat who saw in the Newark site, tucked in safely behind the vast expanse of salt marsh, an area isolated from the Dutch world of the Palisades, an area where few Indian feet trod, an area where the only neighbors—those at Elizabethtown—were Englishmen largely of Puritan views and practices, an area of fine soils, fine grass, limpid waters—an area to which the English yeoman farmer could do yeoman justice. And although plagued by insects, agues, and fevers, an area above all where free men could worship freely in "the Congregational Way." The founders of Newark had set out to create a Wilderness Zion on the limpid Passaic. No one could deny in 1670 that they had achieved their goal.

[37]Alexander Macwhorter, *A Century Sermon Preached in Newark, New Jersey, January 1, 1801* (Newark, 1807), p. 12.

[38]*Ibid.*

[39]It has been clearly demonstrated that various salt marsh mosquito species had been prevalent in the Newark area even prior to the orgin of the town. See Thomas J. Headlee, *The Mosquitoes of New Jersey and Their Control* (New Brunswick, N.J., 1945), p. 6.

Counterfeiting in Colonial New Jersey

KENNETH SCOTT

This is the last of three articles on counterfeiting in colonial New Jersey. Dr. Scott, author of these articles and of other monographs on colonial counterfeiting published elsewhere, is a member of the Wagner College modern language department (not English department, as incorrectly noted earlier).

After the tremendous upsurge of counterfeiting, particularly coining, which was exposed in 1748, the plague died down but was far from stamped out. In October, 1752, New Jersey one-shilling bills altered to six shillings made their appearance,[1] while the next month it was reported that a pockfretten Jersey man had been passing false pieces of eight in New York City.[2]

The coiners who had surrendered in 1748 had been pardoned in accordance with the law of that year and apparently the dilatory prosecution and light punishment of others were not calculated to make the crime too unattractive. In any event, early in March, 1753, Michael Miller, James Talford, and William Kerr of Lebanon in Hunterdon County, laborers, seem to have made a great quantity of Spanish milled dollars and passed off some of them. They were arrested and the grand jury found a true bill against them[3] but, as they were probably tried by a special court of oyer and terminer, there is no record of their fate.

Toward the end of June, 1754, it was charged, a yeoman named Richard Matchett at Freehold in Monmouth County passed a false Spanish dollar to Aaron Motterson of that town. A grand jury returned Matchett's indictment *billa vera* but the petty jury found him not guilty and he was dismissed.[4]

A blacksmith of Elizabeth Town, Nathaniel Hubble, was indicted in 1755 at court of general sessions of the peace for having

[1] *Pennsylvania Gazette*, Oct. 12, 1752.
[2] *Maryland Gazette*, Nov. 8, 1752.
[3] N.J. Supreme Court Records 21094.
[4] *Ibid.*, 21061.

counterfeited a twenty-shilling bill and a two-shilling New York bill and for having passed both of them. There were three witnesses for the king, Samuel Woodruff, J. P., John Bradley, and a woman named Sarah. The crime, it was alleged, had been committed on January 20, 1751. The indictment was returned *billa vera*[5] but, as is often the case, there is no record of the trial and its outcome.

It is to be noted that on March 24, 1756, rules and articles for the better government of his majesty's horse and foot guards and all other of the king's forces were published by royal command. It was therein provided that, wherever there was no form of civil judicature in force, the generals or governors or commanders should appoint courts-martial to try all persons guilty, among other crimes, of coining or clipping the coin of Great Britain or of any foreign coin current in the country or garrison and to punish offenders as the nature of their crimes might deserve. Otherwise every commanding officer was to deliver up to the civil magistrate all persons under his command who should be accused of such offenses.[6]

On February 1, 1758, two justices of the peace of Essex County, John Ogden and Daniel Pierson, had Matthias Morrison and his wife Elizabeth jailed by Sheriff Matthias Williamson on the charge that they had passed false Spanish cobs. Four days later it was ordered that the couple be taken immediately before Samuel Nevill, a justice of the Supreme Court, in Burlington. On February 7 the Morrisons were released on bail of £100, with John Thompson and John Conner as sureties in the amount of £50 each, for the appearance of Mr. and Mrs. Morrison at the next court of oyer and terminer to be held in Essex County.[7] As the records of such courts have not, in general, survived, the outcome of the matter is not known.

Likewise the upshot of the case of William Cripps, a laborer, is not recorded. It was charged that on June 20, 1758, at Woodbridge he had knowingly passed a counterfeit six-shilling New

[5]*Ibid.*, 20877.

[6]Samuel Nevill, *The Acts of the General Assembly of the Province of New-Jersey*, II (Woodbridge, 1761), p. 59.

[7]N.J. Supreme Court Records 21081.

Jersey bill to John Harriscott. The grand jury found a true bill.[8] Cripps was scheduled to appear at the March, 1760 term of the Supreme Court under indictment "for counterfeiting"[9] but there is no further entry concerning him.

There is, indeed, more information about William Winans and Israel (or Isaac?) Bosher, who on February 27, 1759, made two coins in imitation of Spanish milled dollars or Mexican pillar dollars. The same day Bosher passed off the counterfeits to Elizabeth Moore in Woodbridge. Both were arrested and indicted, whereupon Winans pleaded not guilty at the March, 1759, term of the Supreme Court. Bosher, however, admitted his guilt and at this his confederate retracted his plea of not guilty and threw himself upon the mercy of the bench. Bosher was fined £5, Winans £3 and each gave bond of £40 for his good behavior for one year, Bosher with Thomas Scudder and George Marshall as sureties and Winans with Joseph Moore and Isaac Winans as sureties.[10]

It was discovered in June, 1761, that New Jersey and New York bills, altered from lower to higher denominations, were in circulation. Before long the persons responsible, Archilaus Lewis, an innkeeper near Whitehall in New York City, Ichabod Higgins, a sailor, John Higgins (Ichabod's brother), Richard Cooley, a peruke-maker, and Greenbury (or Newberry) Dawson, were taken into custody, John Higgins at Cranbury between Bordentown and Amboy Ferry, the others in New York City. Ichabod Higgins escaped from jail, John Higgins was hanged, but the fate of the others is not recorded.[11]

From this time on counterfeiting of New Jersey paper money became distressingly common; in November, 1762, poorly imitated thirty-shilling bills were being put off.[12] In February, 1763, bad three-pound notes dated April 8, 1762, appeared; they were poorly done on copperplate and printed on three folds of paper, pasted together, while the genuine were neatly executed with

[8]*Ibid.*, 20554.

[9]N.J. Supreme Court Docket, Vol. 9 (May 1756-May 1761), p. 241.

[10]N.J. Supreme Court Records 21204 and N.J. Supreme Court Docket, Vol. 9 (May 1756-May 1761), pp. 191-92.

[11]For a full account of the affair see Kenneth Scott, *Counterfeiting in Colonial New York* (N.Y., 1953), pp. 110-18.

[12]Weyman's *New-York Gazette*, Nov. 29, 1762; *Pennsylvania Gazette*, Nov. 25, 1762.

type and printed on two folds of paper. In the first line of the counterfeit the o in POUNDS was shorter and thicker than the other letters in the word and in the third line the E in JERSEY was not like a printed but rather a written E.[13] In June, 1764, a certain Richardson, a steerage passenger on the *Munificence,* commanded by Captain Grundill, arrived at Patuxent, Maryland, and at once passed poorly made counterfeits of New Jersey six-shilling and three-shilling bills, an offense which soon landed him in the jail of Calvert County.[14] By early August, 1764, twelve-shilling notes altered from the three-shilling denomination were being passed in New York City.[15]

The New Jersey authorities were plagued not only by the counterfeiting of their own bills but also by the passing of false paper currency of other provinces. Two rascals, John Hannah and Herman Rosencrantz, were going about in New Jersey in August, 1764, passing false Pennsylvania bills. Rosencrantz, indeed, had been indicted at the court of quarter sessions of Bucks County in 1763 for passing a bogus thirty-shilling New Jersey bill but the petty jury had acquitted him.[16] On August 17, 1764, Rosencrantz and Hannah, who had been living at Squam in Monmouth County, New Jersey, in Woodbridge passed to Samuel Jacquess, Jr. twelve counterfeit one-pound Pennsylvania bills, while the same day, in Perth Amboy, Hannah uttered to Anne Brooks, wife of James Brooks, Esq., four more such notes.[17] The next day they transferred their activity to Elizabeth Town, where they paid for three horses with false Pennsylvania twenty-shilling bills dated May 1, 1760. The fraud, however, was promptly detected and they were arrested and jailed.[18] They were indicted, tried, convicted and each was sentenced to stand for one hour between five and seven in the afternoon in the pillory of Elizabeth Town, to have one ear cropped and to be imprisoned until October 31, when each was to be discharged on payment of fees.[19]

[13]*Pennsylvania Gazette,* Feb. 17, 1763.
[14]Weyman's *New-York Gazette,* July 2, 1764.
[15]*Ibid.,* Aug. 6, 1764.
[16]See Kenneth Scott, *Counterfeiting in Colonial Pennsylvania* (N.Y., 1956), pp. 98-99.
[17]N.J. Supreme Court Records 20829.
[18]*Pennsylvania Gazette,* Aug. 30, 1764.
[19]N.J. Supreme Court Records 21199.

The two convicts, however, still had to answer for their passing of the one-pound bills on August 7, so they were removed from jail and taken before the Supreme Court in Perth Amboy in September. There they pleaded guilty to the deceits of which they were accused and were sentenced to stand one hour in the pillory of Perth Amboy between ten in the morning and noon and then to be carried back to jail in Elizabeth Town.[20] Hannah, about two o'clock on the morning of November 3, broke out of prison in Elizabeth Town, and Sheriff Moses Ogden offered a reward of five pounds for his capture, describing him as an Irishman about six feet and one inch high, very much pock-broken, long of visage and cropped in his left ear.[21]

His accomplice, Rosencrantz, was heard of later, for he appeared at the April, 1768, term of the Supreme Court on an indictment for felony. As the Attorney General was not ready to proceed to trial, the defendant was discharged.[22] Rosencrantz, an inveterate counterfeiter, was arrested in Philadelphia in December, 1769 for trying to pass off false three-pound New Jersey bills, was indicted, pleaded guilty and was executed in Philadelphia early in April, 1770.[23]

Another passer of bad money was Michael Coon, who, it was alleged, on February 24, 1765, put off in Perth Amboy four counterfeit New York bills of fifty shillings each. He was indicted at the April term of the New Jersey Supreme Court but the grand jury returned his indictment for "deceit" *ignoramus*.[24] It is extremely likely that the moneymaker named Coon who lived at Stony Hill and who in 1767 sold Samuel Ford false New York forty-shilling bills and counterfeit New Jersey six-shilling notes[25] was this same Michael Coon.

In November, 1765, Ashur Baton proved to be less fortunate than Coon. He had some £1400 in poorly-executed New York forty-shilling bills on his person and was taken up for passing

[20]Minutes of the Supreme Court, Vol. X, 1760-1764, pp. 197, 201, 203.

[21]Kenneth Scott, *Counterfeiting in Colonial Pennsylvania*, p. 102.

[22]Minutes of the Supreme Court, Vol. XII (1767-68), the left-hand page opposite p. 118.

[23]Cf. Kenneth Scott, *Counterfeiting in Colonial Pennsylvania*, pp. 109-10.

[24]N.J. Supreme Court Records 20573 and Minutes of the Supreme Court, Vol. XI (1761-1765), left-hand page opposite p. 204.

[25]Cf. Kenneth Scott, *Counterfeiting in Colonial Pennsylvania*, p. 114.

some. By order of the justices of the Monmouth County Court he was pilloried and was most terribly bruised by the eggs, stones, and dirt hurled at him by the spectators.[26]

Very early in February, 1766, it became apparent that counterfeits of three-pound and of thirty-shilling New Jersey bills were being circulated. Papers in New York and Pennsylvania quickly warned the public and gave careful descriptions by which the false money might be recognized. Before long spurious twelve-shilling and six-shilling notes were likewise discovered, as well as some three-shilling bills altered to twelve.[27] Soon it was learned that the counterfeits had been made in England and imported by John Davis, who was arrested in Orange County, New York, with £3,500 of the bills on his person. He was taken to New York City, tried, convicted and punished by being set in the pillory for one hour and by being required to put up a bond of £500 for his good behavior for a year. Two of his passers, Michael Smith and William Gilliland, were apprehended but apparently never prosecuted, while three others who probably aided him, Bernardus Bratt, Daniel Coe and Jeremiah Knapp, appear to have escaped punishment.[28]

This affair of Davis and his accomplices led New Jersey to pass a law on June 28, 1766, fixing the penalty of death for counterfeiters or knowing passers of false bills of neighboring governments;[29] New York reciprocated by passing on July 3, 1766, an act whereby the counterfeiting or altering the bills of any of the colonies or the passing of such altered bills was to be punished by death.[30]

As for the matter of the three-shilling bills altered to twelve, it was presently discovered that one culprit at least was David Duncan of Marcus Hook, who, when arrested in Philadelphia in April, had upon him altered bills of New Jersey and Pennsylvania.[31]

[26]*New-York Mercury,* Nov. 18, 1765.

[27]*New-York Mercury,* Feb. 3, 17, 24, 1766, and *Pennsylvania Gazette,* Feb. 13 and 20, 1766.

[28]See for a more extensive account Kenneth Scott, *Counterfeiting in Colonial New York,* pp. 121-25.

[29]Samuel Allinson, *Acts of the General Assembly of the Province of New-Jersey* (Burlington, 1776), p. 287.

[30]*The Colonial Laws of New York,* IV, 906.

[31]Cf. Kenneth Scott, *Counterfeiting in Colonial Pennsylvania,* p. 105.

In August, 1767, it was reported that there were counterfeits of the six-shilling New Jersey notes dated December 31, 1763, and signed Smith, Johnston and Skinner. The workmanship was careless, in the word "December" an *n* appeared instead of an *m*, while most of the *t's* looked like *f's*.[32] The following month three travelers were arrested for passing at a tavern in Morris County some thirteen-shilling bills made out of one-shilling notes.[33]

Several poorly made imitations of New Jersey bills made their appearance in November and December, 1769; the twelve-shilling counterfeits, dated June 22, 1756, and done with printing types, had the arms and sage leaf badly done; the back and face were executed on two pieces of paper pasted together, not as thick as the genuine, while the numbers and names seemed written by the same hand and with the same ink;[34] the false three-pound notes dated April 23, 1761, were poorly made and might be detected by a number of details, including the fact that EIGHT was spelled EIGBT;[36] the public was cautioned against two other varieties of three-pound bills, both dated April 16, 1769; in these the letters were irregular, the arms and ornaments pale, the words THREE POUNDS at the top were placed too far from the left hand ornament and the same words at the bottom of the bill were too large, as was the case with A in APRIL; the backs seemed done with a pen and on some the word Woodbridge was spelled Woodbrige.[36]

Poorly-executed counterfeits of the twelve-shilling New Jersey notes, dated December 31, 1763, and signed Johnston, Smith, and Skinner, were circulating in New York City in April, 1770, as were three-shilling bills altered to twelve.[37]

Quite as slovenly was the workmanship displayed in two sorts of false 16/3 Jersey bills, dated December 31, 1763, and signed Richard Smith, John Johnston and S. Skinner; in one variety the letter I was omitted from the word FIFTEEN; in the other variety on the back at the bottom of the sage leaf the three crowns were of the same size, while in the genuine bills the middle crown was

[32] *New-York Mercury*, Aug. 24, 1766.
[33] *The Pennsylvania Chronicle*, Oct. 5, 1767.
[34] *The Pennsylvania Gazette*, Nov. 16, 1769.
[35] *Ibid.*, Dec. 21, 1768.
[36] *The New-York Gazette, and The Weekly Mercury*, Dec. 18, 1768.
[37] *Ibid.*, April 16, 1770.

larger than the other two, and the crotchets were a sixteenth of an inch wider apart than on true notes; further the bills had been smoked and rubbed to make them appear old, all of which made the signing look fresher and blacker than it should.[38]

By September false fifteen-shilling Jersey bills were passing,[39] as were some of the thirty-shilling bills, dated April 16, 1764, on which the signatures but imperfectly resembled the true ones.[40]

One person suspected of altering New Jersey money and passing such bills, Samuel Mount, was tried at the session of the Supreme Court of New York which ended on October 26 but was acquitted.[41]

On December 12, 1771, was printed a description by which the counterfeit thirty-shilling New Jersey notes dated April 16, 1764, might be detected. Among other signs it was noted that the paper of true bills was yellowish but that of the false had a bluish cast, while further on in the counterfeits the stem at the bottom of the sage leaf was cut off.[42]

By February, 1772, the public was cautioned to beware of false Jersey three-pound bills dated December 31, 1763. The words *New-Jersey* and *Three Pounds* on the margin of the sun were clear in the counterfeits but scarcely visible in the genuine; in THREE under the sun in the counterfeits the two E's were shorter than the rest of the word but the bogus notes lacked two black spots on the right hand border near the upper and lower end of the true bills.[43]

The arrest of James Bud and Lemuel Gustine at Newport, with £50 in counterfeit New York and New Jersey bills in their possession, and their confessions which implicated one Wills in Connecticut and a certain Smith[44] (doubtless William Hooker Smith) in New York very likely gave a clue to the counterfeiting of the three-pound Jersey bills. The same gang may have turned out the false thirty-shilling notes, dated April 16, 1764, and signed John Johnston, Rich[d] Smith, and S. Smith, which were

[38] *The New-York Journal, or The General Advertiser,* July 4, 1771.
[39] *The New-York Gazette, or The Weekly Post-Boy,* Sept. 9, 1771.
[40] *The New-York Journal; or, The General Advertiser,* Sept. 12, 1771.
[41] *Ibid.,* Nov. 7, 1771.
[42] *Ibid.,* Dec. 12, 1771.
[43] *The New-York Gazette; and The Weekly Mercury,* Feb. 3, 1772.
[44] *Ibid.,* June 29, 1772.

too blackish and differed considerably from the genuine bills,[45] for the craftsmanship of Samuel Ford must have been far superior.

Ford, a master counterfeiter, who worked at first in New York City and later in Morristown and won from his admiring accomplices the title of "treasurer of the three provinces," came to grief through the confession of one of a gang of coiners which was broken up in Middlesex County, New Jersey in June 1773.[46] Only one of Ford's accomplices, David Reynolds, was hanged, three were pardoned, Ford and King fled successfully, and Joseph Richardson, though finally captured and jailed in 1777, was let off on condition that he depart from Pennsylvania forever.[47]

On March 11, 1774, the Assembly of New Jersey passed two acts concerned with counterfeiting; one was a law for the emission of £100,000 in bills. As in the case of past emissions, the counterfeiting of them or passing of counterfeits of them, was to be punished by death. It was further provided that an informer would be rewarded with £50 from the estate of the person convicted or, if there was no estate, with £10 from the treasury. An alterer of the notes was to be pilloried, cropped, whipped, fined or to suffer any or all such punishments at the discretion of the justices, while he was likewise to pay costs and double damages. In case a convict could not pay such costs and damages, he might, upon the order of any two justices of the county in which he was confined, be sold for any term not exceeding seven years.[48]

The other law sought to remedy the comparatively light penalty for coining. It provided that for the first offense of imitating gold or silver money current in New Jersey, or for knowingly passing such counterfeit coin, the culprit might be whipped, branded with *R* in the brawn of the left thumb, imprisoned, pil-

[45]*Ibid.*, July 6, 1772.

[46]The story of this gang has been told in some detail in Kenneth Scott, "The Middlesex Counterfeiters," *Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society*, LXX (1952), 246-49.

[47]For a full account of Ford and his Morristown gang see Kenneth Scott, *Counterfeiting in Colonial Pennsylvania*, pp. 111-32.

[48]Samuel Allinson, *op. cit.*, pp. 435-36.

loried or cropped or receive one or more of these punishments. For a second offense, whether the first was committed either in New Jersey or any of the neighboring colonies, the convict was to be punished by death without benefit of clergy, and the act was to be in force for seven years.[49]

Neither law, apparently, was put to the test before the Declaration of Independence, for the last recorded case of counterfeiting before the Supreme Court in the colonial period was that of John Booth, a cordwainer, who was arrested on January 9, 1776, and examined by Justices Henry Paxson and Joseph Read of Burlington County. They elicited from the prisoner that, on January 1, 1776, "being in a great strait for want of money," he altered a 2/9 dollar bill of Maryland, by erasing "Two Ninths of a" and pasting thereon several letters cut from a newspaper, so as to form the words "Eight" and by adding an *s* to *Dollar*. When he tried to pass the note to several persons, they all refused it.[50] At the May term of the Supreme Court he pleaded guilty to a charge of fraud and was sentenced to be set in the pillory of Burlington on the next Saturday for one hour at noon and thereafter to receive twenty lashes on his bare back at the public whipping post and to stand committed until all fees were paid.[51]

Like the other colonies, New Jersey had learned that criminals would coin and counterfeit despite the most savage legislation to prevent such crimes. The legislators at the outset of the Revolution could and doubtless did anticipate even greater manifestation of the evil. Inveterate offenders, tories and patriots alike, and especially the British government proceeded to weaken the monetary position of the Americans with floods of bogus money.

[49]*Ibid.*, pp. 441-42; *N.J. Archives*, I Ser., XVIII, 439, 441, 443-45, 474.
[50]N.J. Supreme Court Records 20456.
[51]Supreme Court Docket, 60 (1775-82), p. 209.

The Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Buildings

JULIA SABINE

Other histories and studies of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company have been published, tracing the development of the company, its widening services to policyholders, the lives of the men who have directed it. This study is concerned with a different aspect, the home office buildings erected by the Company throughout its years as an integral part of the Newark scene. On July 18, 1955, the Company broke ground for the erection of a steel-and-glass skyscraper, bringing a new look to Broad Street in the Washington Park area. Before the Company leaves its Broadway building, it seemed appropriate to investigate the earlier home offices which were built at different intervals and which, each time, were typical examples of the architectural style of the period.

The Company was organized in 1845, and had its first offices in rented quarters. By 1847, business had sufficiently increased so that a separate building was deemed advisable.

The Market Street Home Office Building

In May, 1847, a committee was appointed "to make the necessary enquiry, and report at the next meeting of the board as to the propriety of purchasing a lot and erecting a building thereon Suitable for the transaction of the business of the Co."[1] A lot on Market Street was bought and at the October 19 meeting, the committee was "instructed to have a building erected to cover the front of the lot of such depth and form as they deem best for the use of the Co."[2]

The lot was on the north side of Market Street between Broad

The Writer's name is familiar to readers of the Proceedings. Other articles on subjects relating to the arts have appeared in earlier issues, and her review of the recent book, *New Jersey Architecture*, will be found on pages 223-24 following. Dr. Sabine is supervising art and music librarian, Newark Public Library.

[1]Board of Directors, "Minutes," May 27, 1847.
[2]*Ibid.*, Oct. 19, 1847.

and Beaver. The building was originally numbered 151, and was of brick.[3] There is no contemporary description of this building that has yet been found. In the view of "Market Street East," published in 1854, there is a building which shows as a substantial mass, at the correct placement in relation with other buildings on the north side of Market Street. It seems very probable that this is the Mutual Benefit building. It was three stories high. The facade showed two courses of six windows. Above the second course appeared what seems to be a tablet, probably with the name of the company on it. Above this is either a series of small windows or decorative embrasures, topped by a cornice supported by brackets. The roofline was given variation by a peak resembling a small pediment, surmounted by a flagstaff. The street floor was protected by a pent roof which covered the sidewalk. There was a center stairway.

We know a little bit more about the interior of this building, as at the February 19, 1848, meeting, the Building Committee:

> Resolved that the lower floors of the building be made of narrow Georgia pine plank at an expense not exceeding $60 above the contract. Resolved. That the members of the building Committee in Newark procure and give direction for placing a furnace in the western part of the building to be extended through and also that a ventilator on the most approved plan be placed on the roof of the building.

Later in 1848, Mr. Charles S. Macknett, manufacturer of saddlery and harness, and chairman of the Building Committee, was granted a bonus of $150 for his "efficient services"[4] in connection with the building program.

From a study of the "Cash Books" of the Company, the names of some of the Newark artisans who furnished either supplies or labor on the Market Street building can be found. Between December 4, 1847, and July 8, 1848, William S. B. Clark, master mason, had been paid $3705.12, the last payment "in full for a/c and extras." Matthew Ely, who made iron railings on Mulberry Street, was paid $1350 between March and July, 1848.

[3]When the city renumbered Market Street in 1868-69, it became 191. The shape of the lot and building show under this number on the 1868 Fire Insurance map published in Newark. The bulding must have been about eighty feet wide, a figure arrived at by comparing the known width of Market Street with the dimensions of the building as shown on the Fire Insurance map of 1868.

[4]Board of Directors, "Minutes," July 17, 1848.

Gould & Moore were paid $3100 between February and June of that year.

Among the names mentioned in the "Cash Books," that of Stephen Grover Gould is the only one which can be substantiated as belonging to a man with architectural training. The firm of Gould and Moore was formed in 1835 as a building concern. But, before that, young Gould had worked with William H. Harris, "where he fitted himself for the occupation of a builder and architect."[5] Therefore, it seems probable that Stephen Grover Gould was the architect, or at least the chief designer, of the Market Street building.

The Market Street building was large enough so that space could be rented to other businesses. In 1850, the net amount of rental, minus taxes and insurance was $925.53.[6] A large room on the third story was suitable for a hall, and had seats placed there for gatherings.[7] At this time in Newark, meeting places were few, and always in demand.

The Brownstone Building

For about ten years, the Market Street Building was large enough for the business of the Company. Some alterations were made, but eventually a new building became a necessity. In 1858, a special meeting of the Board of Directors was held on September 27 to consider the purchase of the Bolles property on Broad Street at the corner of Clinton. Messrs. Condit, Grover and Macknett were appointed to be a committee to negotiate the purchase of the Bolles property and an additional lot of about forty-five feet on Clinton Street adjoining.[8]

By October, the purchase had been made and a committee of

[5]William H. Shaw, *History of Essex and Hudson Counties, New Jersey* (Philadelphia, 1884), I, 635. Gould was born in Caldwell in 1808. At fifteen he came to Newark to clerk in the store of R. & J. G. Baldwin. He stayed there about a year, then worked for Harris. The Gould & Moore partnership continued until 1865, when the business was turned over to relatives. Gould was one of the incorporators of the Howard Savings Bank and of the American Mutual Fire and Marine Insurance Company, now the American Insurance Company.

[6]Board of Directors, "Minutes," Jan. 27, 1851.

[7]*Ibid.*, Oct. 16, 1848.

[8]Board of Directors, "Minutes." The Bolles property was about forty-eight feet on Broad and one hundred feet on Clinton. The purchase price was to be $20,000.

six was designated to "procure plans and specifications for a new Building."[9]

There seemed to be no difficulties in the way of the new project, and at a special meeting, the following action was taken.

> The report of the Building Comme with plans for Building was accepted considered & refered back with Sundry suggestions Viz
> *Resolved* that in the opinion of the board the floor of the office should be best pine except that part used as public entrance and passage
> *Resolved* that it be recommended to the comme that 3d Story of the plan be divided into one & a half Stories & that the Story so formed be fitted into offices
> *Resolved* that the centre windows of the 2d Story be made to conform with the front Story
> *Resolved* that if in changing the 3d Story it is necessary to have the windows altered the comme, have power to alter accordingly
> *Resolved* that the plans and suggestions as amended be refered to the building Committee with directions to have the Specifications prepared covering the building to its entire completion and the estimates be presented to the board for their action.[10]

At the June 3, 1859, special meeting, Mr. Strong as chairman of the Building Committee reported with plans and specifications and was given power to complete the contracts and to make any alterations that could materially reduce the costs without affecting the substantial character of the building.

By February, 1861, the Building Committee reported that after finishing the building, exclusive of the fourth story, there would be only about $1500 left for furnishing. The architect suggested that by substituting half-inch tile for inch tile, enough money would be saved to enable them to tile the passages as well as the Main Room.[11]

The building, when it was finished, was one of the most impressive in the Newark of the period. The stone was brownstone, from the Belleville quarries. The four-story building was a substantial mass, in the whole effect resembling a fortified keep or castle. This was carried out by the castellated roofline and the

[9] *Ibid.*, Oct. 18, 1858.
[10] *Ibid.*, meeting of Mar. 18, 1859.
[11] *Ibid.*, Feb. 6, 1861. This is the first mention of an architect, though the pictures show that there must have been someone who performed this function.

heavy cornice, supported by simple brackets. The corner elements were outlined in diamond pointed blocks, enclosing the entrances and the windows above them. Slender colonnettes and an arch enclosed the doorways as well as the windows on the second floor, and made them into a decorative element. The third-floor windows were arched, but had only a simple molding, and above them, the fourth floor was identified by small windows in the form of eight-pointed stars. The central portion of the facade gave the impression of being slightly recessed, by the use of a heavy molding outlining the whole. On the first floor were three windows, the center one very large, and of clear glass so as not to obstruct the view into the main room of the Company's offices. The three windows on the second floor had a larger center unit, with Romanesque colonnettes. The windows on the third floor were designed to be a unit, with a triple arch molding. The windows themselves were tall and narrow, seven in all, divided into one, five, one. All had shallow arched heads, with clusters of colonnettes separating the groups and supporting the decorative elements in the triple arch.

The elevation on Clinton Street carried out the effect of the facade. The corner element of the facade was repeated; then in the body of the building, there were three courses of arched windows, and on the fourth floor, the star-shaped windows. On the first floor, the windows had keystones, and on the second, the center window was somewhat larger and outlined with a more elaborate molding to avoid monotony of fenestration.

From payments entered in the "Cash Books," it can be deduced that the builders were G. B. Guerin and William H. Kirk and Company. It seems probable that William H. Kirk was the designer, as there is evidence that he had some training in architecture.[12]

[12]Shaw, *op. cit.*, I, 608-09. Kirk came from a Holland Dutch family and was born in New York. He was apprenticed to a carpenter, studied architecture and set up as architect and builder. He is first listed as such in the city directory for 1846-47 and continues with minor variations to the issue of 1862-63. That he was not unknown is shown by a phrase from a letter written by W. Halsey Wood to Florence Hemsley dated September 8, 1889, in speaking of a house on Summer Avenue . . . "Let me add; the plumbing is put in by Dunn, a first class Plumber, and the house built by Kirk." Halsey Wood Papers, New-York Historical Society. Halsey Wood was an architect, designed the Peddie Memorial Church, etc.

Mutual Benefit Buildings. *Left.* Broad Street building completed 1861; *right,* marble building, same site, occupied by 1908.
(Newark Public Library photos.)

Mutual Benefit building on Broadway, Newark, completed 1907. (Newark Public Library photo.)

Other firms who worked on this new building were Vaurez who did some papering; S. Baldwin and Mr. Briggs who provided locks; M. L. Curtis who furnished gas fixtures; Marsh Brothers who sold the clock; Henry Whitmack who did some of the painting; John Jelliff who made some of the furniture; Nehemiah Perry who provided the flag.[13]

Newark was proud of this addition to its business buildings. The *Daily Advertiser* in its issue of September 21, 1861, says:

> The elegant new building of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Co., corner of Broad and Clinton Streets, is now nearly completed. The counting-room of the Company is handsomely finished and provided with furniture of a superior make. The Company expect to move there in a few days. The building is the finest in the State and a great ornament to our city.

And in its October 15, 1861, issue, the *Daily Advertiser* says:

> The M.B.L.I. Co. [*sic*] yesterday moved their office from Market street to their new building on the corner of Broad and Clinton streets. The interior of this handsome structure corresponds with the imposing character of its exterior. In the basement are numerous offices and closets, access being had to the main floor by a winding iron staircase. On the first floor is the counting-room of the Company, which is handsomely fitted up with black walnut desks, tiled floor, and other conveniences and adornments; in the rear are offices for Directors and physicians, and other rooms—all finished in a superior manner. The upper floors are also finished with commodious offices. The whole building is one of the most substantial in the State and an adornment to our City.

Not only was the building admired by the citizens of Newark, it was considered as extremely fine by the insurance people at large. In the April, 1862, issue of the *American Life Assurance Magazine,* a reporter makes the following remarks:

> [It is an] Imposing spectacle of substantial grandeur and refined architectural beauty; reflecting alike honor upon the taste and mechanical skill of the architect who planned and the mechanics who executed the work as well as upon the enterprizing spirit of the Directors of the wealthy corporation who owns and now occupies the premises. In fact the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company's new office takes down and leaves in the shade all the other Life Insurance Corporation buildings that have gone before it.[14]

[13] "Cash Books," Vols. I and II. Payments made in 1860 and 1861.

[14] Copy of this magazine in the files of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company.

And from an unknown source, dated 1863, come the following observations:

The Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company. In which the college rooms are located, is a beautiful stone structure, newly erected by the Company whose name appears at the head of this article. It is built in the most substantial manner, and no pains or expenses have been spared by the Company to render it a first-class structure in every particular. The front presents a more imposing appearance than any other building in the city or state. It is highly ornamented with various stone-work, and the immense window on the first floor is fitten with a single pane of glass, so clear that it offers no obstruction to the sight. The interior of this room, covering almost the entire floor, is finished in the most elegant style, the furniture and desks corresponding in workmanship and elegance. It is occupied by the Company as their business room. The cost of this building was nearly $100,000. The second floor is devoted mostly to gentlemen of the legal profession, several of whom are the first lawyers in the country.[15]

The interior was as carefully designed as the exterior. Pictures of the interior show its elaborate and ornate charm. The shallow curves of the heads of the doors were repeated in other decorative elements, as for example the fireplaces, and their moldings. An elaborate coffered ceiling was supported by slender cannelled pillars with lotus-shaped capitals, and an entablature made of a cross of fancy scrolled brackets. Around the edge of the ceiling were brackets.[16]

A contemporary account of the interior of this building was written by William Wirt Sikes in one of the articles devoted to Newark in the magazine *Northern Monthly*. It runs as follows:

The walls and ceiling of this interior are of the beautiful white stone of Caen, (on which we never look without remembering Charlotte Corday,) and the ceiling exhibits a handsome frame-work of bronzed iron. Such a combination of solidity and beauty is most rare. The panel-work overhead is beautifully cut and wrought, and strong iron pillars, bronzed and gilt, support it. The floor is of the handsomest colored encaustic tiles. The fireplaces are of the Nova Scotia stone like that of which grindstones are made. The furniture, as well as the railings and other wood-work, are of solid black walnut, all strictly corresponding, and all made expressly to fit the apartment, as is common in the palaces of kings. The bronze gas lamps also correspond exactly with the other features of the place.[17]

[15]Quoted in *Pelican* (May, 1916), p. 192.

[16]Pictures of the interior may be found in *Insurance Index*, "Newark issue" (Oct., 1901), p. 372.

[17][William Wirt Sikes] "About Newark," *Northern Monthly* (Nov., 1867), p. 10.

The Brownstone Building served its purpose for a number of years. In 1866, an addition of one or two stories was under consideration. A cost estimated by Kirk of $24,726 for the whole construction was reported. The building was to be in harmony with the rest.[18] Another addition was put up in 1885, the extension continuing down Clinton Street.[19]

By 1901, the Company had had to buy further land and put up an annex which fronted on Commerce Street. This made a right angle to the rear of the buildings which faced on Broad Street, and an alley from Commerce Street gave access to both Clinton and Broad sections of the structure.[20] There is some evidence that this annex was designed by George Post.[21] Certainly the design is decidedly different from the rest of the buildings. And it is certain that Post had appeared before the directors and explained his plans for additional stories, pointing out the difficulties of such a project.[22]

A picture[23] of the Commerce Street annex shows a four-story building with a narrow facade in a style more reminiscent of the Renaissance style. The facade was divided laterally into three units. The first floor had three windows with arches, separated by masonry piers. Each window had a bracketed keystone which supported the simple cornice. Modillions and swags of flowers were the decorative elements.

The second and third floors were unified by plain pilasters, capped by egg-and-dart molding, with a single rosette on each pilaster, which ran from the cornice of the first floor to the cornice below the fourth floor. A classic entablature, with triglyphs and metopes, and mutules on the overhang of the cornice further defined the unity of this section. In the metopes, oval modillions and rinceaux repeated the decoration of the lower floor but gave variety to the visual aspect of the facade.

[18]Board of Directors, "Minutes," Dec. 27, 1866; May 20, 1867; Jan. 30, 1867.

[19]*Pelican* (May, 1916), p. 192.

[20]E. Robinson and L. E. Tenney, *Atlas of the City of Newark* (New York, 1901), Plate 1. The Wolters property, thirty feet on Commerce St. was bought in January 1898. Board of Directors, "Minutes," Jan. 17, 1898.

[21]There is a brief mention of an insurance building in Newark at this time. Post Papers, New-York Historical Society.

[22]Board of Directors, "Minutes," Jan. 26, 1898.

[23]*Insurance Index*, "Newark issue" (Oct., 1901), p. 369.

The piers on the fourth floor were again simple, but the windows were framed in swags of flowers, depending from modillions. The top cornice had somewhat less of an overhang than the lower ones, was supported by brackets, and surmounted by a balustraded parapet.

The whole facade was a skillful piece of design, giving some richness, yet being essentially simple. The effect was fairly open, because of the relatively large amount of window space. This Commerce Street annex is so different in style from the Broad and Clinton buildings, it seems reasonable to suppose that a different architect did the designs. Since all of these decorative elements may be found in the later building which Post designed for the Company, it seems safe to assign it to that architect.

The "Marble" Building

"From time to time the Company bought additional land and enlarged the building until in 1904, after an occupancy of forty-two years, it was determined that the Company's needs were such that it would be advantageous to demolish the original building and erect a new building on the same site," was said in an address made several years later.[24] To do this, the directors asked two prominent architects of the time, George B. Post and Cass Gilbert, to submit plans. Mr. Post advised the directors that a competition for plans was less "desirable for owners."[25] The directors wanted a "building of six-or-eight stories, to be located on the two lots lately purchased from the American Insurance, having a frontage of about fifty-two feet on Broad Street, and that they be prepared with a view of extension southerly to Clinton Street, so as to make a building of about one-hundred feet frontage on Broad."[26] A few days later they asked for a sketch of the proposed building. The first floor was to be designed for rental to financial institutions, the upper floors to be used for the offices of the Mutual Benefit Company, the whole to be strictly fireproof.[27] In the meantime, the leases with the

[24]Edward E. Rhodes, "The Company's Old and New Home Offices," *Pelican* (July, 1928), p. 63.

[25]Special Investment Committee, "Minutes," Jan. 4, 1904.

[26]Board of Directors, "Minutes," Dec. 30, 1903.

[27]*Ibid.*, Jan. 18, 1904.

current tenants were kept purposely fluid so that building operations need not be impaired by the presence of tenants.

At the meeting on February 24, 1904, the plans of Mr. Post were recommended for acceptance. Cass Gilbert was granted $1000 for his rejected plans at the March 23rd meeting, at which time, Mr. Post was advised "that the plans are too elaborate and too expensive."

To gain some room while the new building was in process of erection, two stories were added to the Commerce Street annex by the Hedden Construction Company at a cost of $43,584.00.[28]

At the October 5, 1904, meeting of the Board of Directors, the architect was requested to procure bids for the work as outlined in the specifications. The work was to be accomplished in three stages; the first provided for the building of the north section to the Commerce Street annex, up to and including the second floor, and this section finished for occupancy; the second stage included the section south to Clinton Street, maintaining connections with the Commerce Street annex, and not disturbing the Clinton Street entrance. Work on deepening the basement and on the upper stories of the first section to continue. In the third stage, the Company was to move into the finished sections, and the remaining frontal section to be done. "On account of the character of the work, and of its being built in three stages, it is not intended to give a Time of Completion for the complete finish of the several parts of the work."[29]

A building operation of this kind brings some of its own peculiar problems, such as maintaining space for the business of the Company, the continuance of services of light, gas, heat, etc., while working on different parts of the building. People have to be protected from dust made by the necessary demolition, and city ordinances about obstructing sidewalks, etc., have to be respected. In some ways, it is more of a challenge to an architect than the straightforward design of a new building.

That this new building was to conform to the ideal of a handsome substantial building is borne out by a study of the specifications. Knoxville marble was to be used for doorsills, gray Knox-

[28]Special Investment Committee, "Minutes," May 18, 1904.

[29]"Specifications for General Contract for the Mutual Benefit Life Building," p. 3. Copy in the Post Papers, New-York Historical Society.

ville marble tile for the floors, with a band of pink Knoxville marble, where needed. Vermont marble was to be used in different places, and selected American marbles to be used for mantles in the Directors' rooms and in the adjoining committee rooms.

It was decided to use a rubbed finish on the white South Dover marble of the exterior. All the cut stone work was to be ready in 1905. This stone work included seventeen different models of lion's heads, swags, crown molds, modillions, friezes, pilaster column capitals, letter panels, keystones, consoles, etc. Metalwork included bronze frieze elements, wreaths, candelabra, balustrades, and newell posts. Grillwork was also needed, and it was decided to use electroplated iron with bronze finish for the outside.[30]

The woodwork was to be primarily of seasoned spruce, though the doors were to be of oak. In the directors' rooms, pine with papier mache ornaments was specified.

Mr. Post recommended the use of hollow tile instead of reinforced concrete in part of the structure. The performance of hollow tile during the destruction of Baltimore and San Francisco by earthquake and fire had been good.[31]

The architect requested permission to have some of the structural steel fabricated ahead of time, so as not to interrupt the building operations.[32]

Finally in 1908, the directors were able to report as follows:

> Our Home Office completed has met our expectations and wants, and enables us to conduct the business and preserve our files very satisfactorily. The entire first floor, as originally contemplated, has been leased to good tenants, reducing thereby the annual cost of the Home Office of the Company.[33]

This building was a handsome one, in the modified Renaissance style of the period. It contrasted pleasantly with George Post's Mediaeval-Romanesque structure which he had designed for the Prudential on the opposite side of Broad Street. Also across the street was the Romanesque tower of the Post Office and Federal Building.

[30]Board of Directors, "Minutes," Oct. 26, 1904.
[31]*Ibid.*, July 30, 1906.
[32]*Ibid.*, Mar. 15, 1905.
[33]*64th Annual Statement*, for 1908, p. 15. The tenants were the National Newark Banking Company, now the National Newark and Essex Banking Company.

The first floor of the home office was substantial and simple, round-arched window embrasures with bracket keystones and decorative modillions to lighten its severity. The central entrance had bronze candelabra on either side, and free-standing columns to mark the doorway. The entrance was only slightly different from the windows, but the latter had handsome bronze grilles, and bronze friezes at the door lintel height.

Above the banking floor, the structure falls visually into two parts, the lower limits being marked by a series of balconies, supported by consoles reversing the curves of the keystone brackets. These balconies filled in the space between the columns and pilasters which rose four stories to an architrave with a continuous frieze of rinceaux and an elaborate cornice. The facade had four free-standing columns, the rest were pilasters. Both columns and pilasters had the ornamental Corinthian capitals. These capitals were so well designed that, when the building was demolished, one of the columns was sent to the University of Michigan to be set up in the college garden.[34]

Behind the columns of the facade and the pilasters of the side elevation were the courses of windows, the lower of which were surmounted by alternate round-arched and peaked headings. The spandrels of the other courses were ornamented with swags of flowers or decorative moldings of bronze.

Above the architrave was another story, surmounted by a balustraded parapet. Below the parapet was a small cornice supported by a molding. The windows were in groups of two, divided from each other by a pier with a panel at the top of which was a lion's head mask.

The Broadway Building

The rise in land values in the center of the city and the increase of the Company's business were factors in the next move.

In February 1922, the Board of Directors appointed a committee to consider the future needs of the Company with regard to office accommodations. This step was necessitated by the growth of the Company.

The Home Office has been located on its present site since 1860. The original building was demolished in 1904, and a new building erected on

[34] *Pelican* (Apr., 1931), p. 67. See also *Newark Sunday Call,* Feb. 15, 1931.

the same site, which had been enlarged by additional purchase. The location is in the center of Newark where land values are high.[35]

It was decided to move farther from the center of the city, yet within the city boundaries. A site in the North Newark area was finally selected.

The directors have continued their consideration of a problem which has been pressing upon their attention for several years. The Company has outgrown its present Home Office accommodations and it is imperatively required to provide additional room. The reconstruction of the present building could not be economically accomplished, and, without such reconstruction, the extension of the present building to adjoining land owned by the Company could not be entertained with due regard to convenient and efficient use. After much study and long consideration the Company has acquired a site, bounded by Belleville, Second and Summer Avenues, in the City of Newark, but somewhat removed from the business center, and architects are working on plans for a new building, the construction of which will be begun during the present year. The new site fronts 200 feet on Belleville Avenue, has a depth of 500 feet on Second Avenue, and extends along Summer Avenue 333 feet. The new building will be designed as a first unit and will provide accommodation for the present Home Office requirements, with allowance for substantial growth, and its plan will lend itself to the erection of additional units in the future as needed . . . . The amount expended in the acquisition of the new site was $410,622.28.[36]

The plans for the new building were accepted and in the next year's statement, we find the following report on progress:

During the year plans for the new building referred to in last year's report to the policyholders, have been perfected and construction begun upon the new site upon the corner of Belleville Avenue and Second Avenue in the City of Newark. The designing architects are J. H. and W. C. Ely of Newark, with Alexander B. Trowbridge, of New York, as consultant, and Meyer, Strong & Jones, as mechanical engineers; the contractors are Starrett Bros., Inc., of New York. It is hoped that the building may be completed and ready for occupancy in the early part of 1927.[37]

The new building was completed and occupied on April 18, 1927. "Contrasted with the crowded conditions which prevailed in the old building, the new home has brought to the entire Home Office staff additional conveniences and comfort in work-

[35] *Pelican* (Nov., 1925), pp. 138-39.
[36] *80th Annual Statement*, for 1924, pp. 12-13.
[37] *81st Annual Statement*, for 1925, p. 10.

ing conditions, with a decided increase in efficiency and contentment."[38]

More land had also been purchased so that the new site now contained about four acres, and had a frontage of 337 feet on Broadway, as Belleville Avenue had been renamed. Exclusive of equipment and the fees of architect and engineer, the building cost 79½ cents per cubic foot. The total cost of this Broadway building was $6,371,523.41. "The 'marble' building has cost in 1908, $1,934,681.33 and had been outgrown in some twenty years."[39]

The building itself is a substantial one, and it stands in splendid contrast to the small buildings near it on Broadway. The only sizable buildings in the neighborhood are the Georgian brick and limestone building of the New Jersey Historical Society, the North Newark Station of the Post Office, and down the street, the building of the State Teachers' College, which is also of brick and limestone. The gray white mass of the Mutual Benefit Building thus takes on a visual importance.

The architects were aware of the importance of the building, which posed some particular problems.

> The property the Company had purchased required moving from the heart of the city to a location in an outlying section . . . This however, demanded an absolutely complete building,—one which would provide the employes with all requirements, such as dining rooms, rest rooms, gymnasium, etc.,—every convenience and comfort.[40]

A plan was made for the proposed building of the maximum size for ultimate needs, then a study revealed how much space was needed for current operations and growth for a specific number of years. Other steps for future building were then laid out, so that a building program for present and future was outlined.

The structure fronts on two important streets, 170 feet on Broadway, and 274 feet on Second Avenue, and has a central portico with several entrances on each street. The building is six stories high and has a basement. A service wing included such

[38] *83rd Annual Statement,* for 1927, p. 15.

[39] *Ibid.,* pp. 15-18.

[40] John H. and Wilson C. Ely, "Home Office Building for the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, Newark," *Architectural Forum,* Part 1 (Oct., 1928), p. 497.

facilities as elevators, locker rooms, etc. The other wing provides space for the auditorium with the gymnasium beneath. Two large corridors cross each at right angles under a rotunda, and give access to the departments which deal most often with the public. The elevator lobby is off the rotunda and entrance to the auditorium is off the east-west corridor.

On the second floor are offices and board room and open spaces for other departments. The third and fourth floors have open working spaces. The fifth floor was planned for new business, with laboratory space and examining rooms. On the sixth floor is the employes' dining room with a promenade behind the parapet. One of the most striking features in the interior of this building is the openness of the rooms which have very few supporting members, so that moveable partitions make flexible floor space arrangements possible. With high ceilings, this contributes to a pleasant feeling of space and serenity.

The interior finish is simple, though there is some decoration. The entrance lobbies have ceilings divided into geometric medallions by egg and dart moldings, bands of rinceaux, with rosettes used as central motifs. The radiator grills are classical in design, and there are small palmetto anthemions on the moldings over the doorways. Double Ionic columns mark the crossing of the corridors. The rotunda ceiling has many classical elements of design, including some bas-reliefs in Roman style.

On the outside, both elevations divide into two horizontal units. Each has a central portico supported by free-standing columns, not fluted, but with rosettes on the capitals. These columns carry a classical architrave, with triglyphs and metopes. Decorative rosettes, shields, etc., are in the metopes. This architrave continues on the body of the building which is rusticated below, with high arched windows on the first floor and flat-headed windows on the second. Above this lower unit, runs a deep cornice unifying the first two floors.

The porticoes continue above the second floor with free-standing Corinthian columns which extend three floors to support a plain architrave and a pediment with palmetto anthemions. Flat pilasters with Corinthian capitals repeat the motif of the free-standing columns and unify the windows into vertical bands.

Balusters fill in the space between the bases of the columns and pilasters. The whole is crowned with a balustraded parapet.

This building has a massive monumental quality which could be overpowering if it were not for the variation of the decoration. The play of light and shade on the grayish white Indiana limestone softens what might have been an unbearable severity. The architects have this to say on the subject:

> As far as the architectural treatment of the building is concerned the architects desire to pay their respects to the monumental structure which the Company was obliged to vacate because of the growth of its business. It was of a past period of American architectural design, but a wonderful example of the best of that period, and it was an inspiration to have it to "live up to." In the new building it was felt that the architects had to express the strength of a large, important business enterprise with the dignity and scale obtained by using a large but simple type of Classic architecture. This was their endeavor. But, after all, the judgment of the successful solution of any architectural problem rests with those who view the building and with those who use it,—and not with its architects.[41]

Conclusion

In contrast to the buildings previously occupied by the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, the new building will be a steel and glass skyscraper, some twenty stories high, light and soaring. This, too, will be in the architectural style of its period, using new materials and methods made possible by modern technology. But then, each building has been excellent of its kind and for its time and has been one of which both the Company and the city of Newark could be proud. This study is a modest tribute to both the architects and the Company who have given expression to the feelings of their different periods, and have added so much to the visual aspect of the city.

SOURCES

Most of this material is drawn from the files of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, and I wish to thank the officers for allowing me to consult them, especially Miss Mildred F. Stone, who was more than helpful. I also wish to thank Mr. Wayne Andrews, then curator of manuscripts of the New-York Historical Society, for making it possible for me

[41] *Ibid.*, p. 500. The building will be turned into a regional Catholic high school.

to examine the Post and Halsey Wood papers. Following is a brief list of the most important materials used in the preparation of this study.

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Philip Freneau: A Bibliography

OWEN P. THOMAS, JR.

THE following bibliography is intended to be an exhaustive list of all books and non-ephemeral articles dealing primarily with the poet Philip Freneau. Articles in standard reference works have generally been omitted, as have articles in works of a survey nature, except when such articles or works contain information not otherwise recorded, e.g., the sketch of Freneau by John W. Francis in the Duyckincks' *Cyclopedia of American Literature*. Newspaper articles have also generally been omitted, except when such articles are reviews of works, or are otherwise noteworthy. It will be noted that, except in rare cases, no attempt is made to include works or articles published during Freneau's lifetime. Readers interested in such contemporary items, which are largely political, are referred to Philip M. Marsh, ed., *The Prose Works of Philip Freneau* (New Brunswick, N.J., 1955).

In addition to the standard abbreviations employed by *PMLA*,* the bibliography utilizes *JRUL* as an abbreviation for the *Journal of the Rutgers University Library*.

ANON. "The Father of American Poetry," *Dial,* XXXIV (16 June 1903), 405-06. (1)

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——. "Our Country and Columbus," *Magazine of American History,* XXVIII (November 1892), 351-52. (3)

——. "Freneau Section," *The Matawan Journal,* September 10, 1936. Contains the anonymous verses, "I Left the Shade," and "Freneau Loved the Scenery about Here," plus an anonymous article, "Freneau's Almanac." See also Charles E. Close, below. (4)

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*For the benefit of readers not initiated into the mysteries of *PMLA* practice, here are translations of some of the less obvious abbreviations used: *American Historical Review* (AHR); *American Literature* (AL); *American Scholar* (AS); *Classical Journal* (CJ); *Explicator* (Expl.); *Huntington Library Quarterly* (HLQ); *Journal of English and Germanic Philology* (JEGP); *Modern Language Notes* (MLN); *New England Quarterly* (NEQ); *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* (PMHB); *Publications of the Modern Language Association* (PMLA); *South Atlantic Quarterly* (SAQ); *Sewanee Review* (SR); *Studies in Philology* (SP); *William and Mary Quarterly* (WMQ).—EDITOR.

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——. "The Wife of Philip Freneau," New York *Evening Post,* May 6, 1893, p. 14. (6)

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ANTIQUER'S ATTIC

MARGARET E. WHITE

MANY of us have at least one sampler in our possession, fondly cherished as the work of a beloved great aunt or respected as the fine needlework of some unknown ancestor. The lugubrious verses and little pictures so neatly cross-stitched into canvas are amusing and quaint to our present-day minds, geared as we are to TV and commercials. Seldom do we consider the social mores or child psychology lying back of these examples of embroidery. Nor do we give thought to the instructress who watched over this work, perhaps with a loving heart but certainly stern in her admonitions for neat preciseness, or to the awkward little fingers too often pricked by a seemingly recalcitrant needle.

Take, for instance, poor Ann Elizabeth Bruen of Newark! At the age of ten this serious child stitched into her sampler the following verse:

> Jesus permit thy gracious name to stand
> As the first effort of an infant hand
> And while my fingers o'er this canvas move
> Engage my tender heart to seek thy love.
> With thy dear children let me share a part
> And write thy name thyself upon my heart.

Beneath this is added, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." While these sentiments of 1817 are highly commendable they seem to us of the 20th century rather solemn thought with which to occupy young fingers.

Or take Sally Crane Hays of Newark who, in 1803 at the age of eight, worked into her sampler the following quotation from Thomson and surrounded it with flowers:

> The best preparation for all the uncertainties of futurity consists in a well ordered mind, a good conscience, and a cheerful submission to the will of Heaven.

The beautiful wildflower border is worked in long-stitch with harmoniously blended threads of silk. Both these samplers are owned by the New Jersey Historical Society, but in the Newark Museum's collection is a sampler of 1804 on which Mary Carman, aged seven, worked the same lines from Thomson. Another of the Museum's samplers, worked in 1834, repeats the "child's petition" exactly as given by Ann Elizabeth Bruen. The latter sampler was intended as a

memorial to a nine-months-old baby, including in its design the traditional tombstone and willow tree.

As the needle in their little fingers went laboriously in and out of fine homespun canvas, what were these children really thinking about? One cannot but question if many did not secretly agree with the less inhibited Patty who frankly stated in her sampler for all the world to read

> Patty Polk did this and she
> hated every stitch she did in it.
> She loves to read much more.

Restive Patty may not have realized that as she worked "every stitch" she was learning not only the gentle art of embroidery but also the rudiments of design and color harmony and, quite obviously, the meaning of words. It would seem that the major purpose of the sampler was to teach simultaneously the alphabet, numerals, and simple stitches. In needlework the sampler corresponded to the hornbook which was the earliest lesson book made for a child's own use. Into the sampler went a girl's first lessons in reading, in Bible history, geography, and pictorial art.

According to Candace Wheeler, samplers were "baby work—a beginning as necessary as being taught to walk or talk." Certainly, little girls were hardly out of babyhood when they commenced these exercises in stitchery, taught at home by mother and, sometimes, at a Dame School as well. The mistress of a Dame School was frequently a widow or some young gentlewoman who wished to eke out an income. Here very young children learned the alphabet, the catechism, and a little reading and writing, before progressing to a grammar school. Even in the latter girls were taught to sew and the Newark Museum has a four-patch for a quilt top made by Eliza Pierson in 1851 under the supervision of Miss Johnson who was then teacher at the Lyons Farms Schoolhouse now re-erected in the Museum Garden.

A choice item in the Newark Museum's collection is a scrapbook showing "Specimens of Needlework Executed in Viscountess Lorton's Model School, Errorona, by Margaret Whiteside 1840," this caption being worked in finest cross-stitch within a leafy border. At this private school in Ireland, Margaret learned not only to work samplers and to "sew a fine seam" but also to make buttonholes, tiny doll clothes as forerunners of what she would later make for herself and her children, to do fine drawnwork and lace making. The book is an illuminating record of what was expected of young girls in the 1840's.

Just how long ago samplers were first worked is a question. A book of patterns for samplers was published in England by Peter Quentel in 1527 and is referred to in a later book of "borders and corner pieces" published in 1701. John Taylor gives a full list of old-time stitches in his *Praise of the Needle,* 1640. Samplers are even mentioned by those famous bards Shakespeare and John Milton. In these literary references the word sampler is vari-

ously spelled sam-cloth, sampleth, saumpler, and exampler, for it was literally a sample or example.

The earliest samplers were long and narrow, the stitches done on a foundation of linen and intended, it would seem, as a record of patterns. The choicest seem to have been made in England, which country has always been noted for its fine embroideries. The elaborately embroidered pictures and the bed hangings of crewelwork done by colonial ladies in their leisure hours had their inspiration in earlier English needlework. In the New Jersey Historical Society is a long, narrow sampler dating from the 18th century and done by a member of John Hart's family in Hopewell. Across the bottom of the sampler a gaily colored shepherd and shepherdess are shown tending their sheep. Judging by the quality of the needlework one feels certain the young maker progressed with ease to the execution of more elaborate pictures worked on silk.

So far as known, the first sampler made in the American Colonies was the work of Lora Standish, born 1623 and the daughter of Miles Standish. It is now preserved at Pilgrim Hall in Plymouth, Massachusetts. During the latter part of the 17th century samplers made in the Colonies changed their shape, becoming shorter and broader, until by 1720 they had assumed a strictly American style.

By the end of the 18th century the variety of American samplers was infinite for each was an expression of the individual designer and maker. Colors used in the needlework were home dyed and, therefore, soft and pleasing. It is only as we approach the mid-19th century that we find harsh colors and unimaginative patterns, often worked in wool. Because childish fingers could not attempt complicated designs we find the simple Greek fret used as a border, or else a meander in strawberry or vine pattern. The pious verse first appeared as part of the sampler about 1760 and, as already indicated, we find these verses or variants of them used on many different samplers. Here is a popular verse of which several variants are known:

> This is my Sampler
> Here you see
> What care my Mother
> Took of me.

On a sampler made by Mary Ford Alling in 1819 she stitched the following:

> This I have done to let you see
> What care my parents took of me.

In 1836 Henrietta Elizabeth Baldwin worked this variant,

> Remember me when this you see
> What care my parents took of me,
> When I am dead and in my grave
> This piece of work my friends shall have.

Mary Alling's sampler, in the Museum's collection, shows the alphabet in three different sizes, but is it possible that Mary could not count beyond six? Henrietta Bald-

win's sampler is illustrated. As she was careful to state she "completed this work in the ninth year of her age, July 17th 1836." In later years Henrietta became Mrs. Theodore R. Beardsley.

The other sampler illustrated here was worked by Eliza Hendricks, later Mrs. John Christopher Denman, who was born in 1818 and died about 1870. She was buried in Westfield Presbyterian Churchyard. The New Jersey Historical Society owns a water color drawing of Eliza Hendricks Denman as well as her sampler, which is an unusually fine piece. The stanza at the top reads

Full many a gem of purest ray serene
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

It is a bit startling to find that at the age of seven Adelia R. Stiles of Caldwell, New Jersey, was expected to work these lines into a sampler:

A little learning is a dangerous thing,
Drink deep or taste not the Pierian spring:
There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,
And drinking largely sobers us again.

Below a stiff band of flowers Adelia has added,

SELF-GOVERNMENT

May I govern my passions with absolute sway,
And grow wiser and better as life wears away.

Mary A. Hice, born December 29, 1819, tried to relieve her depressing verse with a spray of flowers. After all, it's depressing enough to be born only four days after Christmas and thus be deprived of birthday excitements.

How shall the young secure their hearts
And guard their lives from sin.
Thy word the choicest rules imparts
To keep the conscience clean.

Sophia Pope at the age of seven proved herself an expert needlewoman, as did her twin sister, Elizabeth. Sophia's cross-stitched lines are enlivened by a parrot in a tree, cocking its head in saucy fashion at a squirrel and French poodle.

I wish with Martha while I serve below
The lawful things of Time to learn and know
But so to be engaged with things Devine
That Mary's better part it may be Mine.

Surely the parents of Eliza Webb must have smiled with sincere pleasure at her work "finished September 24, 1814."

Behold! the labours of my tender age,
And view this mark which did my hours engage,
With anxious care I did these colours place,
A smile to gain from my dear parents face,
Whose care for me I ever will regard,
And hope that Heaven will give a kind reward.

Though worn in places Eliza's sampler is an excellent illustration of good design, softly blended colors, and careful workmanship.

After reading such thoughtful and depressing sentiments it is refreshing to come across pictorial samplers whose charm is enhanced by the utter lack of perspective and which offer simple views of a red house flanked by trees; a primitive interpretation of the Nativity scene; a boy and girl romping with a puppy.

Samplers in the collections of the New Jersey Historical Society and the Newark Museum represent various types and also serve as historic records of local families. At Marlpit Hall in Middletown may be seen several samplers by young members of the Taylor family and other historical societies of the state own pieces of local interest. It is good to know that these bits of embroidery, so carefully cherished by fond mothers of long ago, are still treasured by men and women who, for the very reason that they could not possibly do such fine needlework, appreciate the samplers as an expression of American folk art.

DIRECTOR'S DIARY

ROBERT M. LUNNY

THE 1956-57 season of activities of the Society culminated in three particularly important events: the annual meeting of the Woman's Branch of the Society on May 8 and exactly one month later, the Seventh Annual New Jersey Historical Conference. Between these two, on May 22, was held the First New Jersey Dinner. Concerning the New Jersey Dinner, the reader will find a full account elsewhere in this magazine. Before a discussion of the other two events, there is one especially important item to bring to the attention of the members of the Society: a change in the by-laws voted at a meeting of the Board of Trustees on May 15.

The change added two new classes of membership and increased the dues of one class. As it now stands, our membership is grouped in the following classifications: *Patrons,* who have contributed one payment of $1,000; *Life* members who have contributed one payment of $250, an increase from $100; *Supporting* members, a new classification, who pay dues of $100 annually; *Sustaining* members whose dues are $25 annually; *Family* members, a new class open to married couples, who pay dues of $15 annually and receive one copy of the PROCEEDINGS and one notice of all events; *Contributing* members whose dues are $10 a year; and *Institutional* members, a class open to business firms and institutions, whose dues are $100 or more annually. There are also *Associate* members whose dues are $5.00 a year but who do not have voting privileges in the Society.

The final event of the season was the Seventh Annual Historical Conference sponsored by the New Brunswick Historical Club and the New Jersey Historical Society. The new Rutgers University Library was the scene of the Conference attended by approximately two hundred who were interested not only in the day's proceedings but also in the handsome new building housing the collections of Rutgers, the State University.

A general session in the morning was presided over by the Reverend Dr. Walter H. Stowe, president of the New Brunswick Historical Club. Mr. Adrian C. Leiby spoke on "The Jersey Dutch on the Neutral Ground." The second talk in the morning session was by Albert S. Davis, Jr., president of the Somerset County Historical Society, whose subject was "Washington's Encampment at Middlebrook." Mr. Davis described con-

ditions at the campground during the winter of 1778-79 and vividly pictured how important was the holding of these heights to the Revolutionary cause. An approach is to be made to the National Park Service to preserve the encampment as a National Historic Site, and patriotic organizations and individuals are asked to lend their assistance in assuring the success of this most worthwhile effort.

Concurrent with the morning session there were two workshops. The one was on pewter and paintings in New Jersey and Mrs. George Morrison of New Brunswick was the chairman. Joseph H. Kler, M.D. of Bound Brook, spoke on "Collecting Early American Pewter" and displayed, with the assistance of Mrs. Kler, a magnificent selection from their private collection which has gradually grown to quite sizable proportions. William H. Gerdts, Jr., curator of paintings and sculpture at the Newark Museum, talked on "Early Artists of New Jersey," a subject on which Mr. Gerdts has become an authority. The hunt for examples of and for information on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century artists in New Jersey was described in detail.

The other workshop was a panel discussion on "Collecting New Jerseyana." Mrs. Richard Hartshorne, first vice-president of the Woman's Branch of the New Jersey Historical Society, was the moderator and the two panel members were Walter N. Eastburn, secretary of the Manuscript Society, and James M. Ransom. These three are avid collectors of manuscripts and early newspapers. They carried on a lively discussion among themselves and with the audience describing their experiences in collecting, giving practical hints on finding and acquiring items in the face of strong opposition. Their enthusiasm transmitted itself to their audience as was the case in the other workshop too.

A luncheon was served in the University Commons at which the Reverend Dr. Walter H. Stowe and Dr. Richard P. McCormick, president of the New Jersey Historical Society and predecessor of Dr. Stowe as president of the New Brunswick Historical Club, each spoke a few words of greeting to the guests. Dr. McCormick called the roll of county and local historical societies and other organizations which had representation at this Conference. There were twenty-eight of them. The largest representation other than from the two societies acting as hosts was from the Springfield Historical Society, which had twenty-one members attending. The farthest distant society represented was the Cape May County Historical Society with two members present.

At the afternoon session Dr. Roger H. McDonough, director of the New Jersey State Library at Trenton, presided. The first speaker, Dr. Wallace E. Davies, professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania, spoke on "A New Jersey Gadfly: William O. McDowell." Dr. Davies' brilliant discussion of this unusual Newarker was most interesting and amusing.

McDowell was a thorough-going American patriot who was in great measure responsible for the founding of some of our most influential patriotic organizations. Dr. McCormick spoke on "New Brunswick—Town and Gown" briefly recounting the history of the community and the University.

Following the afternoon session, the guests were taken in busses around the extensive campus of the University including the Library and the Buccleuch Mansion, an eighteenth-century house nearby. The conducted tour, in four busses, was ably arranged by Dr. William H. Cole. A tea in the New Jersey Room of the Library brought the Conference to its conclusion. The entire day was most enthusiastically received.

At the annual meeting of the Woman's Branch on Wednesday, May 8, the following officers were elected: Mrs. Frederick Frelinghuysen, president, Mrs. Richard Hartshorne, first vice-president, Mrs. George W. Gedney, second vice-president, Mrs. S. Whitney Landon, third vice-president, Mrs. Carlton W. Tillinghast, recording secretary, Miss Helen Durand, corresponding secretary, Mrs. Hugh Pugh, treasurer. After a buffet luncheon the ladies and their guests, numbering about one hundred, heard Alexander J. Wall, Jr., curator of Old Sturbridge Village and former director of the Society, speak on the Village and show slides of that great museum devoted to portraying life of 150 years ago in a middle-New England farming community. Mr. Wall was warmly greeted by the many friends he had made during the five years he served as the Society's first director.

NEWS FROM OTHER QUARTERS

During each quarter, inquiries go out to about sixty historical societies and similar organizations throughout New Jersey asking for news of their activities, those of the recent past and those planned for the future. The response is splendid, considering the fact that some organizations have no permanent staffs or headquarters. To make this section as inclusive as possible, the members of our own society's staff scan available newspapers for additional historical news.

Your co-operation is very much appreciated. Please continue to help us give even better coverage so that those of us interested in the history of our state can find in these few pages a truly complete record of the various ways in which our societies operate. An idea well planned and carried through by one group might well be adapted to fit into the program of another.

Mrs. Leonard G. Rundstrom, president of the Atlantic County Historical Society, reports that work on the restoration of the double parlor at Batsto and the Society's own room are progressing. This includes complete furnishing and restoring the fine fresco in the parlor. Over in Basking Ridge, the society held a meeting on May 16, when several members talked on

local events in the pre-Civil War period, showing interesting material from their collections of New Jerseyana.

The newest museum in the state was opened on May 4 at Teaneck. The Bergen Community Museum on Fort Lee Road at Overpeck Creek owes its existence to the untiring efforts of Mrs. Herbert Johnson, who spoke at the opening exercises, and an equally devoted corps of volunteers. The museum will portray life in Bergen County in a series of exhibitions. At the opening the two principal attractions were a collection of prints by contemporary Bergen County artists, chosen and hung by Lynd Ward, and an ornithological collection of the area. Congratulations and best wishes for the success of this museum! It is open daily.

At the annual meeting of the Burlington County Historical Society on May 7 about one hundred fifty heard William W. Hawkins of Pemberton talk on "Forgotten Towns and Wild Flowers of New Jersey," illustrated with colored slides. Mrs. Hugh Pugh was reelected president. The Society continues to publish its excellent eight-page pamphlet on local history. The Camden County Historical Society held its fifty-eighth annual meeting on May 16 when Arthur D. Pierce, associate editor of the *Philadelphia Inquirer,* gave a lecture on "Iron in the Pines," a preview of his forthcoming book of that title on the iron industry in southern New Jersey, to be published by the Rutgers University Press. On May 25 the society held its "Spring Pilgrimage" to six landmarks in and about Camden, including the Burrough House, the Griffith Morgan House of 1697 and the site of the first nickle works in America.

Another tour held annually on the second Friday in July is that sponsored by the Cape May County Art League, seventeen old houses and other buildings being opened for the occasion. The list is a varied and interesting one. Cranford on June 7 and 8 held "Cranford Days" featuring concerts, an art exhibition, and coffee and doughnuts for commuters on Friday.

The Spring Tour of the East Orange Historical Society on May 11 took the group to Princeton for luncheon, a visit to the battlefield and Nassau Hall and a visit to Governor and Mrs. Meyner at Morven. In nearby Hopewell on the following Saturday, five houses, the School Baptist Church, and the Hopewell Museum, for the benefit of which the tour was arranged, were all open to visitors. In Princeton the thirty-fifth annual meeting and luncheon of the Huguenot Society was held April 6 at the Nassau Tavern. The speaker was Richard Stillwell, professor of art and archeology, who talked on the Princeton University Expedition to Serra Orlando, Sicily.

The Monmouth County Historical Association recently announced an important gift of the acts of Council and General Assembly of the state which were published in Trenton in 1784 by Isaac Collins, the state printer.

At Morristown the new building

of the Morris Junior Museum was opened on April 23. It is located at 141 Madison Avenue. The Morris County Historical Society held its annual meeting on June 1 at the home of its president, Mrs. Thomas T. Cooke. Melvin J. Weig, superintendent of Thomas A. Edison National Monument, gave excerpts from Edison's diary. A month earlier the society had taken a historical tour of Boonton. The first annual Morristown "Colonial Day," sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce, occurred on June 1 and included a pageant at the Ford Mansion, visits to a number of interesting houses and showings of "This Is New Jersey," the film recently released by the New Jersey Bell Telephone Company.

During April and May, more students visited the New Jersey State Museum than in the preceding ten months, with a record of 1,805 set on May 20. A popular feature, which will continue until autumn, is the exhibition "Fishing in New Jersey," showing methods used by the Indians, Currier and Ives prints, and (in aquariums) even some fishes native to the state. The New Jersey Highway Authority on April 24 dedicated Telegraph Hill Park on the Garden State Parkway at Holmdel. The 328-acre recreation area is historically interesting as a signal point for news of shipping arriving within Sandy Hook.

Two current exhibitions of particular interest at the Newark Museum are "Carpenter and Blacksmith in Early America" with a display of early iron and wooden objects shown through November and "Of Other Days: Scenes of Everyday Life," a collection of nineteenth-century genre paintings shown through September. William H. Gerdts, curator of painting and sculpture, spoke on the paintings on June 6 at the opening and on June 16. The museum is open every day and Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

At its June meeting, the Nutley Historical Society heard a talk by Parke Richards, Jr., on "Hoffman-La Roche—Past and Present," with illustrations, on a firm closely associated with the community. On June 23 the Ocean County Historical Society made John T. Cunningham its first honorary member. Mr. Cunningham, a trustee of the New Jersey Historical Society, is the author of several books on New Jersey. The dedication of the Barnegat Lighthouse as a state park is scheduled for July 11.

The Paramus Historical and Preservation Society recently elected Donald Leonard of Ridgewood as its president. To mark the arrival of *Mayflower II,* the Society is showing objects relating to the arrival of the Pilgrims in 1620. At Park Ridge, the Pascack Woman's Club in an auction raised over $300.00 for improvements to the museum of the Pascack Historical Society. The Society has been recognized by the local Board of Education as an instrument of public instruction, and classes are being scheduled to visit the museum.

That historic-house tours pay, is

a fact shown by the success of "Open House in Salem County," held on two days in April by the Salem County Historical Society. The society, with a membership of over six hundred, sponsored the tour of about twenty houses, charging $2.50 per person. Nearly eight hundred visitors subscribed $2,000 of which $1,800 was profit. An excellent descriptive pamphlet and a map were given to the visitors. President of the society is Mrs. James H. Green of Salem.

On June 1 the Somerset County Historical Society and the Washington Camp Ground Association held a joint meeting at Bound Brook to which representatives of other historic societies and patriotic groups were invited. The purpose of the meeting was to describe the plan for having Washington's camp at Middlebrook Heights in Somerset County preserved by the National Park Service as a National Site. Representatives of ten organizations heard Albert S. Davis, Jr., president of the Somerset County organization, outline the plans and ask for the necessary popular support in the form of petitions and resolutions. Those organizations and individuals who wish further information may write to Mr. Davis at the office of the Society, Somerset County Courthouse, Somerville. This meeting was attended by the director and the librarian. On May 14, Carl Prince, holder of the Carle M. Bigelow Fellowship at Rutgers University, described the work on his thesis on Washington's encampment. The director spoke on the same program on ways in which historical societies can benefit from mutual assistance and the exchange of ideas and experience.

The Rutherford Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution dedicated a bronze marker on the Outwater House at Fairleigh Dickinson University on April 27. The house, built in 1821, stood originally in East Rutherford until moved in 1956. Herbert A. Fisher, Jr., spoke on its history. The Beacon Fire, Short Hills, Church and Cannon and Watch Tower chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Passaic Valley Chapter of the sons of the American Revolution dedicated a number of new headstones for veterans of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 at Springfield and New Providence on May 26. The speaker was the Reverend Dr. John Robbins Hart, dean of the Washington Memorial Chapel of Valley Forge.

James B. Hawley of Summit gave an illustrated talk before the Springfield Historical Society in March at the Springfield Public Library on Feltville, the deserted village in the Watchung Mountain Reservation at New Providence. At its May meeting the society heard Arthur F. Cole speak on the history of Elizabeth and Union counties, a program given in conjunction with the centennial af Union County. This Society had twenty-one members attend the Seventh Annual New Jersey Historical Conference at New Brunswick. This was the largest representation of any group attending,

other than the two organizations which served as hosts.

At the end of a week of celebration of its first one hundred years, Union County had a large parade on May 25. In the reviewing stand at Warinanco Park at Elizabeth were the Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell, Fleet Admiral William Halsey, Senator Clifford P. Case and officials of the county and its municipalities. The director was one of the three judges of the numerous floats.

Another centennial observance was that of the Paterson-Deckertown stagecoach with a trip run over the old route to Sussex, complete with horn, mail and rubber-shod horses. The picturesque vehicle created a great stir in the countryside and in the press.

The William Trent House at 539 South Warren Street in Trenton, a handsome edifice built in 1719, has been open to the public since 1939. Much of the furniture which it contains is only in the building on loan, and an effort is presently being made to purchase these fine William and Mary and Queen Anne pieces which approximate an inventory of 1726. Since March the Furniture Fund Committee of the Trent House Association, of which Donald B. Rice is chairman and Mrs. Joseph L. Bodine is vice-chairman, has been busy raising a fund of $20,000 for this purpose. To date more than $12,500 has been collected or pledged, of which about one-tenth has been contributed by school children.

NEW MEMBERS

Sustaining

Mrs. S. K. Lonegren, Bedminster

Contributing

Mrs. Stevens Baird, Bernardsville
Dr. C. Abbott Beling, Essex Fells
Mrs. C. Abbott Beling, Essex Fells
Reverend Herbert S. Brown, Newark
Mrs. C. A. Dawley, Plainfield
Rev. Edwin S. Ford, Whippany
Mrs. Donald G. Herzberg, New Brunswick
Mrs. C. H. Steelman, Princeton
Dr. John C. Stockman, Morristown
Mrs. Karl Tallau, Springfield
Henry W. Webb, Little Falls
Harry L. Wheeler, Newark

Associate

James E. Boselly, Newark
Walter H. Flynn, Jr., Little Falls
Benjamin Freefield, Elizabeth
Mrs. H. W. Harding, Summit
Miss Anne Hubley, East Orange
Phillip Miller, West New York
Mrs. Alfred G. Parker, Summit
William S. Quinlan, Springfield
Vincent P. Struble, Pompton Lakes
Mr. and Mrs. Gifford M. Uptegrove, Maplewood
Mrs. Neil T. Van Ness, Livingston

OF BOOKS AND THINGS

In this department are combined short articles based on holdings of the Society's library, and listings of new publications about New Jersey. The contributors, Mr. Shelley and Miss Studley are, respectively, librarian of the New Jersey Historical Society and principal New Jersey librarian of the Newark Public Library.

FROM THE LIBRARY

FRED SHELLEY

One of the intriguing games played in many libraries is estimating the number of pieces in collections of manuscripts. If there are twenty-five or fifty pieces, one can count them, of course. Or if there are one or two account books there is no problem. But if there are seven file drawers or two trunks or a dozen cartons an estimate—some say "guestimate"—must be made. When some figure has been decided upon, the library staff must remind itself that the bulk of one large account book may far exceed a group of 50 letters, yet on paper the ratio is one-to-fifty. The staff must never forget, either, that a single document may provide just the information needed by a historian and somehow that document must be singled out, when needed, from the thousands of papers on file.

For the past year and a half, a strenuous effort has been made to identify, record, and describe in a uniform manner all the groups of manuscripts that have been acquired by the New Jersey Historical Society since its founding in 1845. The total number of pieces is estimated to be in excess of 75,000 More than three hundred manuscript groups were found. These groups include materials as various as the papers of Joseph P. Bradley, Supreme Court justice; of Mahlon Dickerson, governor, senator, and Secretary of the Navy; of Peter D. Vroom, governor and minister to Prussia; of Marcus L. Ward, post-Civil War governor; a collection of Elizabeth Town documents; Revolutionary era documents; a collection of ships' logs; the Bamberger Autograph Collection which includes a document signed by each of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence; the Ely, Nelson, and Dormitzer autograph collections; scores of Revolutionary diaries and orderly books, country store account books, records of literary societies, and the like.

Only two attempts to list the Society's manuscript holdings have been made. The first was in 1895 by William Nelson; the second in 1941 by the W.P.A. Both were incomplete and neither takes into account recent acquisitions. The present effort will appear in print in the summer or early fall as a Socie-

ty publication. It will be sold at a price which will recover publication costs and there will be a reduced rate for members.

In the space remaining to us in this issue, we print one manuscript group, Number 54, the Walt Whitman Miscellany, in its entirety. There are but three items, a postal card and two letters. The letters were acquired in 1956, the postal card about 1903. A few explanatory notes have been added.

Attorney General's Office,
Washington.[1] Feb. 20. 1867.

Mr. Avery,

Dear Sir:

In answer to your note of 15th. I would inform you that a small edition has just been published of "Leaves of Grass" complete, (including "Drum Taps," &c)—price $3.[2] I think Hudson Taylor's bookstore, on Penn'a. Av. has them—If not, I can supply you with a copy, by your calling on me at this Office.

Yours respectfully,
Walt Whitman

[*Addressed on envelope:*] Llewellyn Avery, Jr. / Washington, / D.C.

Washington,
December 19, 1867

G. A. Tracy,[3]

My dear Sir:

Your note has been received. I published last edition of *Leaves of Grass* myself—& sell it. The price is $3. I send it from here by mail. Mr. Burrough's *Notes* can be easily obtained by writing to the publishers, American News Company, 121 Nassau st. New York City.[4] The price is $1.

Thanks for your kind wishes.
Walt Whitman

328 Mickle Street[5]
Camden N J Sept: 15 '87

Evn'g—The package of photos. came this afternoon. Shall sign & return them to-morrow or next day —all the points proposed by you & Mr C are satisfactory

Walt Whitman

[*Postal card addressed:*] William Carey / Century Office Union Square / New York City.

NEW JERSEY IN PRINT

MIRIAM V. STUDLEY

Those who have been interested in the series of talks on the Tradition of the American Home held jointly by our society and Rutgers University are aware of the scarcity of printed material for such a study

[1]Written on official stationery of the Attorney General's office, where Whitman had been employed since 1865. The Attorney General then was Henry Stansbery, of Ohio.

[2]The Society has a copy of the 1860 edition of *Leaves of Grass*.

[3]A Connecticut autograph collector.

[4]John Burroughs, author and naturalist, who wrote *Notes on Walt Whitman as Poet and Person* (1867).

[5]Written from the house now preserved by the state of New Jersey (Department of Conservation and Economic Development).

as it relates to New Jersey. Bibliographies and book exhibits prepared by the Art Department of the Newark Public Library have called attention to a few useful books in the field, while talks by experts have revealed our dependence on general sources which devote little attention to New Jersey.

Here is a field for research for New Jersey scholars in the manuscripts, documents, and newspapers in which this society is so rich. Here also is a field for the writing of articles of fresh interest for the pages of our magazine. Harry B. Weiss, Margaret White, and Hubert Schmidt have made a noteworthy beginning in the social history of New Jersey. Others should be encouraged to follow their example.

New Jersey's social historians and interested amateurs will not want to miss a stimulating article by Louis C. Jones, director of the New York Historical Association, in the *New York Folklore Quarterly,* Spring 1956. Under the title, "Three Eyes on the Past, a New Triangulation for Local Studies," Dr. Jones points out the need for comprehension of the historic roots of our "mores, viewpoints, ethics, home and family life, and economics" for an understanding of contemporary life. He raises questions in the history of personal relations and family life in this, the first of several articles; major topics to be covered later include "Art and Aesthetic Strivings," "Social and Civic Relations," and "Occupations,"

Stressing the need for scholarly researches, Dr. Jones urges greater use of diaries, letters, account books, almanacs, builders' guides, songsters, books of recipes, and home remedies, even museum objects depicting social history. We in New Jersey have much in common with New York in our early origins, and in the diverse nationality groups that contributed to our culture. Migrants from New Jersey helped to settle the Finger Lakes area where Dr. Jones works, and joined New Yorkers in the larger stream of westward migration. We can learn much using Dr. Jones' writings as a guide.

REVIEWS

Among the members of this society, present and past, are many distinguished Jerseymen whose lives have contributed mightily to the improvement of our state. The first review below is by a man who has done as much for his native New Jersey as anyone of his generation, the late Chief Justice Vanderbilt. Wishing to have the Millburn anniversary history reviewed by a member of our society, and being familiar with the excellent, front-page reviews by Judge Vanderbilt in the New York Sunday *Times,* we ventured to ask the Chief Justice to review this distinguished local history of his home township. His prompt and gracious acceptance of our invitation was characteristic of the man whose remarkable talents and energy have brought nationwide honor to New Jersey. We are happy that Judge Vanderbilt was a member of our

society, and proud to print this review.

Julia Sabine, who reviews Lars de Lagerberg's *New Jersey Architecture,* is now supervising art and music librarian in the Newark Public Library.

The Reverend Henry Charlton Beck, reviewer of *Early Grist and Flouring Mills,* is now vicar of St. George's Church, York Harbor, Maine, director of promotion for the Episcopal Diocese of Maine, and managing editor of the diocesan monthly, the *Northeast.* Father Beck is author of five books on New Jersey. The latest, *The Roads of Home,* was published in 1956 by the Rutgers University Press. His newspaper series on New Jersey folklore has appeared regularly each Sunday in the *Newark Star-Ledger* since 1947.

Two of the books reviewed in this issue have the same joint author—Dr. Harry B. Weiss, noted for his many valuable writings in little-known fields of New Jersey history, and indeed also on many subjects not related to this state. Dr. Weiss at present is writing a history of early New Jersey fulling mills, and has also been collecting material on early New Jersey tan yards and woolen mills. These projects are part of a continuing interest in neglected aspects of early New Jersey industry.

Millburn, 1857-1957. By Marian K. Meisner. (Millburn: Published by the Millburn Centennial Committee, 1957. 80 pages.)

This intriguing volume celebrates the first century of the history of Millburn Township. The attractive text of the history by Marian K. Meisner is ably supported by a wealth of photographs portraying almost every phase of Millburn's history over the past century. As one turns its pages rich with stories of the past, it is easy to wander into the realm of what might have been.

Suppose, for example, there had been no Israel D. Condit to insist that Millburn be included in Essex County. Or imagine what might have happened had the New Jersey West Line Railroad been completed and had the area become a transportation center with an inevitable concentration of industry. Or fancy that Stewart Hartshorn had not dreamed as a boy of an ideal town and then as a man had the money to make his dream come true. Or contemplate what Millburn Township would be like if there had been no South Mountain Reservation and Washington Rock to serve as a bulwark. The volume reflects in text and picture every phase of community life from the Indians who followed the two branches of the Minisink Trail to and from the shore and mountains to these modern days of the automobile, the electrified railroad and the airplane.

Sport and gracious living have always played an important part in the life of the inhabitants of Millburn, but no one event is better remembered than the annual National Decoration Day Bicycle Race back and forth between Millburn and Irvington. Oldtimers, however, would scarcely dream of the variety

of our athletic events and teams and of the splendid transportation facilities that have made commuting to an ideal environment a reality for so many people.

World War I brought in an influx of new homeseekers without destroying the character of the community. World War II brought the branches of the department stores to our very door and led to the establishment of new churches and schools and the enlargement of others. For nearly a quarter of a century the Paper Mill Playhouse has brought us the best in the theater. Truly, Millburn is a wonderful place in which to live. Everything augurs well for a happy twentieth century.

The community owes much to Mrs. Meisner.—ARTHUR T. VANDERBILT.

New Jersey Architecture, Colonial and Federal. By LARS DE LAGERBERG. (Springfield, Mass., 1957. 316 pages. Price $20.00.)

As Mr. de Lagerberg says in the foreword to this book, he accompanied his grandfather in drives around the state. The child's interest in the past was aroused, and became focused on the architecture of the early periods. The author began sketching the buildings and collecting the materials relating to them. The bulk of this collecting and organizing was done between 1906 and 1915. Now it is gathered into a single sturdy, good-looking volume and issued for the benefit of people who are interested in the history of New Jersey, of architecture, or both.

This is, without doubt, one of the most tantalizing books in the field of architectural history that have been published recently. It is so full of pictures, plates, and possibilities that the reader or research worker wishes fervently that it went more than twice as far as it goes.

The two chapters of text suggest the general outline of the development of architecture in New Jersey, relating architecture in this state to what was happening elsewhere. This section reads well, and is informative. But, when the reader's attention is engaged by something in which he has a special interest, he will often find that the text raises more questions than it answers. For example, there is a quotation from Isham and Brown (and the book might well be more clearly identified for the benefit of readers who find it difficult to find bibliographical data), "we do not believe any hung sash were used before 1725." Mr. de Lagerberg says that in New Jersey, early examples "seem to antedate this period . . ." This is a very interesting and important point, and immediately the reader wants to know: How many hung sash? On what type of structure? In what towns or what part of the state? Is the basis for this statement stylistic, or documentary?

The rest of the book is a veritable treasure house of illustrations of structures in New Jersey. There are 36 plates, and 551 photographs, showing buildings, interiors, exteriors, details, and even (wonderful to relate) the designs of some

wallpaper. Here in the compass of one book is a larger number of pictures of New Jersey buildings than has been gathered together before. For this, all research workers in the architectural history of this state will be greatly in Mr. de Lagerberg's debt. But here again, there is so much that we want more, much more. The buildings are always identified by county, but sometimes not much further. It's wonderful to see pictures of Newark houses—but it would be even more wonderful if we knew where the houses were located. The visual aspect of buildings changes over the years. Maybe the current crop of architectural historians is missing some of the most interesting buildings through ignorance.

Everyone interested either in New Jersey history or in the development of architecture in this country should know about this book. It is invaluable now and will become even more useful as future research solves some of the problems suggested above.—Julia Sabine.

The Early Grist and Flouring Mills of New Jersey. By Harry B. Weiss and Robert J. Sim. (Trenton: New Jersey Agricultural Society, 1956. 136 pages.) Belatedly but none the less with unstinted enthusiasm, this little book, one of many valuable additions for the reader interested in a New Jersey that is no more, is to be commended.

There are few authorities who could have accomplished more in so limited a space than Dr. Weiss and the late Mr. Sim. Bob Sim was an old friend. I came upon him recurrently here and there, picking up this fact and that relic, an enthusiasm we shared. I miss him and his friendly smile, his quiet authority on many things, and his way of supplying information by making an inquiry.

Mr. Sim's specialty, I think, was pottery, but—this book, another contribution of the New Jersey Agricultural Society, reveals that he was adept in many other fields. Teamed with Dr. Weiss, he has produced a work that should be the last word on New Jersey grist mills for many a moon. Dr. Weiss adds the black-and-white sketches and Mr. Sim provided the photographs which add so much to the revival of the scene.

Starting out among the earliest mills, the authors gambol among all the known authorities to reach back to the establishments of 1700 and beyond, to the miller and the kind of man he was, to water and other power, and to all the minutiae of the world of grist and grind. It is straight history and there is little folklore for relief but, even so, it will be the book that is consulted when so many others have been forgotten.

Bob Sim could have no better epitaph than his part in the preparing of *The Early Grist and Flouring Mills of New Jersey.*—Henry Charlton Beck.

An Historical Sketch of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the New Jersey State Society, Daughters of the American Colonists. By

HELEN MARTHA WRIGHT. (Newark: Snell Press, Inc., 1956. 40 pages. Price $1.50. Order from author, 161 Harrison Ave., Jersey City 4, N.J.)

Miss Wright, a member of this society, has made an important contribution to the history of patriotic societies in New Jersey in this faithful account of the New Jersey State Society, Daughters of the American Colonists, founded in 1924 as a branch of the national society incorporated three years earlier. This society, made up of women who are lineal descendants of ancestors "who rendered civil or military service in any of the colonies prior to July 4, 1776," has as its purpose research in the history of the American colonists, recording and publishing the same, erecting memorials, and fostering love of our country. Miss Wright's history of the New Jersey Society relates the accomplishments of the years, highlighting dedication in Elizabeth in October, 1939, of a beautiful bronze plaque depicting the landing of Governor Carteret in 1665, a copy of a painting by Howard Pyle. Brief biographical sketches compiled by members of the Society are given of the eleven New Jersey State Regents to 1956, most of whom were active in many other lines of civic and patriotic endeavor.—M. V. S.

The Green Dragon; the Lives of Banastre Tarleton and Mary Robinson. BY ROBERT D. BASS. (New York: Henry Holt, 1957. viii+489 pages.)

This will surely be ranked as one of the more remarkable books of history published this year. Mr. Bass, who teaches at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, chose in his research to investigate an unexplored theme, the life of Banastre Tarleton, a British army officer. The path of his research lead him to so much information about Tarleton's liaison with Mary Robinson, the famous English actress, that a joint biography is the result. Much light is shed on the England of the end of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth century. There are many fresh insights into the actions and characters of the great and near-great of the day—the Prince of Wales, later George IV, his father, George III, Richard Sheridan, David Garrick, Lord Cornwallis, Sir Joshua Reynolds, among them. Essentially this is a source book. The author is to be thanked that much of his book consists of long quotations from little-used or long-forgotten sources, including the re-discovered Tarleton Papers.

Of prime interest for New Jersey are letters of Tarleton describing events of the Revolution in the state and in the neighboring area. One letter in particular dated at "Prince's Town" December 18, 1776, gives a first-hand account of the capture of General Charles Lee. Among the others is one written from "Brunswick" on May 25, 1777.

Tarleton and his cavalry were the scourge of the Carolinas in 1780 and 1781. The very name struck terror and hatred in the hearts of soldier and civilian alike.

The volumes Tarleton wrote concerning his part in the campaigns are well known. In his later career Tarleton represented Liverpool in Parliament for more than twenty years. He opposed Pitt and the aboliton of the slave trade. Apparently he served his constitutents to their satisfaction, although he must have been out of touch with them toward the end of his service in 1812. Tarleton was made a baronet in 1815 and lived on until 1833. —Fred Shelley.

Some Legislation Affecting Rural Life in Colonial New Jersey. Compiled by Harry B. Weiss and Grace M. Ziegler. (Trenton: The Past Times Press, 1957. 50 pages.)

To his many interests, Dr. Harry B. Weiss has added the hobby of book publishing. With Grace M. Ziegler of Trenton, about a year ago, he established the Past Times Press to issue possibly one volume a year of their own writings. Design of these volumes, which are to appear in limited editions of from 150 to 200 copies, is by Dr. Weiss and Miss Ziegler, printing by McCrellish and Quigley, Trenton publishers. Like many private presses, the Past Times Press has no advertising appropriation, and only a certain proportion of the copies will be held for sale.

The first publication of this new venture is the volume reviewed here. Since even the cities of Trenton, Perth Amboy, Burlington, and Elizabeth were semi-rural in colonial times, it will interest anyone who wants to know how people lived in "the Jerseys." Drawn from original sources well-known by lawyers, and available in historical and law libraries, this compilation renders the general reader a service by grouping colonial laws according to subjects such as agriculture, conservation, Indians and slavery, liquor, horseracing and gambling, trade and taxes. Obviously very selective, the little volume indicates the points at which the central government touched persons in their homes, shops and farms. Well selected type and quaint cuts, plus an uncrowded page, make the book inviting to the reader and a satisfaction to own. It would make an excellent gift book, or keepsake.—M. V. S.

Rededication of the Courthouse, County of Morris, New Jersey, 1956. Prepared under the Direction of Dr. Albert O. Halse, Assisted by May Leonard. (Morristown, N.J.: Board of Freeholders, 1956. 36 pages.)

In well-organized text and fine pictures reproduced from historic prints and maps, paintings and old photographs, this brief history of the county, its building and institutions, highlights education, transportation and industries, and describes the county flag and coat of arms adopted in 1956.—M. V. S.

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS

Every historical library in New Jersey will, it is hoped, secure a copy of the 1955-56 *Annual Report* of the state Division of the State Library, Archives and History. The report of the Bureau of Law and

Legislative Reference records important accomplishments in the field of Jerseyana; a rearrangement of the book stacks of the law library made it possible to bring together all New Jersey materials in one location. The new position of documents librarian was created; it is held by Richard Nevius, a former member of the Newark Public Library staff. The State Library has joined the Co-operative Cataloging Project of the Library of Congress, whereby it has agreed to supply cataloging copy for all New Jersey documents. A systematic attempt has been made to acquire materials of New Jersey interest in federal documents and those of other states. A loose-leaf guide to genealogical research sources has been prepared for the use of library patrons. The microfilming of state documents is proceeding in an orderly fashion, and recommendations have been presented for storage of non-current records. All these accomplishments clear the way for a better service as an information and research center for the state.

This report by the Division director and state librarian, Roger H. McDonough, also points out specific lacks: the need for more trained archivists, better reading room facilities, storage space, and proper housing and exhibit space for priceless New Jersey documents.

Bergen-Paulus Hook Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Jersey City, New Jersey, Fiftieth Anniversary, 1906-1956, Year Book, 1955-1956. (Jersey City, 1956. 20 pages.) Included are anniversary notes by Helen M. Wright, regent.

Centennial Edition. Book of Homemaking. Prepared by Union County Home Economics Extension Service of Rutgers University. (50 pages.) Includes reproduction of 1875 kitchen exhibit in the Society.

Early New Jersey Artists, 18th and 19th Centuries, March 7th-May 19th, 1957. (Newark Museum, 1957. 32 pages.) Handsome catalog of exhibit listing 111 items, several of which are illustrated, together with an alphabetical list of New Jersey artists and membership list of the Newark Sketch Club.

A Piece of My Mind; Reflections at Sixty. By Edmund Wilson. (New York: Farrar, Straus, 1956. 239 pages.) Chapter X, "The Author at Sixty," contains an autobiographical account of Wilson's life in Red Bank and notes about his father, Edmund Wilson, who was attorney-general when Woodrow Wilson was governor.

The State of Variety. By John T. Cunningham. (Newark: Printed for Carteret Savings and Loan Association, *ca.* 1956. 20 pages.)

PERIODICALS

"Allaire State Park," by Alden T. Cottrell, in *Recreation Development,* April 1957, pp. 1, 2. The author is chief of the state Bureau of Forestry, Parks and Historic Sites.

"Allaire to be Developed as an

Historic Shrine," in *New Jersey Municipalities,* April 1957, p. 27.

"Barnegat Light Continues as Landmark," in *New Jersey Autoist,* April 1957, p. 8.

"A Bell with a Remarkable History" in *Bulletin* of the Passaic County Historical Society, November 1956, pp. 37-38. A Swiss bell brought to America by Joseph Bonaparte, later used by a Paterson school.

"Cape May Caviar" by Frank Dickinson as told to R. B. White, *Cape May County Historical Society Bulletin,* March 1957, pp. 1-3.

"The Capture of John Cadmus" in *Bulletin* of the Passaic County Historical Society, November 1956, pp. 40-43. Story of a Revolutionary patriot.

"Dedication of New Headstones for Veterans of American Revolution and War of 1812 Buried in Springfield and New Providence," in *New Jersey Genesis,* July 1957, pp. 138, 147. Includes list of veterans honored.

"Dr. William Newell Wins Victory over the Sea in Ocean County," by Joseph S. Sickler, in *New Jersey County Government,* April 1957, pp. 12, 13. First superintendent of the U.S. Life Saving Service.

"Early Age of Art," by Nancy Baker, in *Suburban Life,* April-May 1957, pp. 44, 45, 61. Exhibit at Newark Museum shows role of this area in the romantic beginning of New Jersey painting.

"81 Years Ago This Month—New Railroad in 24 Hours," in *The Lackawanna,* March 1957, p. 4. Change of guage from 6 feet to 4 feet 8½ inches, March 15, 1876.

"The Franklin House" by Lynn Davis in *Bulletin of the Gloucester County Historical Society,* December 1956, p. 21. Old tavern in Glassboro.

"The Germans of Colonial New Jersey," by Hubert G. Schmidt, in *New Jersey Genesis,* July 1957, pp. 139-43. Part 4.

"The Glamorous Governor of New Jersey," by Milton MacKaye. *Saturday Evening Post,* April 13, 1957. Biographical account of Hon. Robert B. Meyner.

"Glimpses of Local History No. 13: the Model Silk Farm," in *Relics,* February-March 1956, p. 3. William B. Smith's farm, Park Ridge.

"'Grand Old Champion of the Tides' is an American Work of Art," by Boris Blai, in *New Jersey County Government,* April 1957, pp. 9, 11. Barnegat Lighthouse Centennial.

"Hamilton's Notes in His Pay Book of the New York State Artillery Company," by E. P. Panagopoulous, in *American Historical Review,* January 1957, pp. 310-25. Revealing the early development of his ideas on manufactures and finance.

"The Helen Sterrett McBurney Story" in *Passaic County Historical Society Bulletin,* February 1957, pp. 51-65.

"How the Railroads Came to the Port of New York, the 'New York Connecting' the Nine Mile Railroad," in *Via Port of New York,* May 1957, p. 17.

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THE AMERICAN SCENE IN DECORATIVE ARTS. Late 18th-century handkerchief, printed with an engraving after the painting, "The Declaration of Independence," by John Trumbull. (*Museum photo.*)